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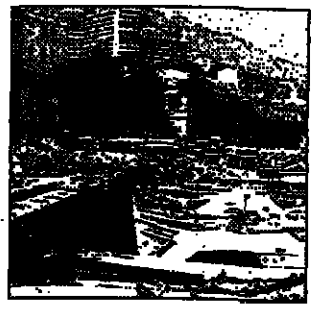
THE TIMES

No 64,370

SATURDAY JUNE 27 1992

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LA BELLE FRANCE 1

Beauty and a sense of danger: Passport to France offers a tempting mixture for travellers to Corsica
Weekend Times
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LA BELLE FRANCE 2

Thirty years in films, but French actress Catherine Deneuve is still a byword for beauty
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DESIGNER TROUBLE

The creative fire of architect Sir James Stirling drew strong criticism as well as praise
Page 7
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BANDS ON THE RUN

Northern brass is on a march of conquest, bringing the oompah to southern climes
Weekend Times
Page 1

Summit leaders admit EC doubts

Major warns Brussels to curb powers

FROM GEORGE BROCK AND ROBIN OAKLEY IN LISBON

MANY Europeans fear that the European Community is a "voracious super-state monster" running out of control. John Major warned his fellow EC leaders last night.

Speaking to the first Community summit since the Danes rejected the Maastricht treaty, the prime minister told the EC Commission that the time had come to hand back powers to national governments. He said that EC directives would have to be better justified in future and called for outmoded ones to be ditched if they did not accord with the principle of "subsidiarity", the notion that decisions should be made at the lowest practical level.

The EC leaders also decid-

ed to issue a clear signal to Austria, Sweden, Finland and Switzerland that the Community is ready to begin negotiations on their applications for EC membership as soon as the new Community budget has been agreed. Sources provided differing accounts of whether or not the Community will wait until the Maastricht treaty is ratified before starting the talks on enlargement. British officials insisted that Maastricht need not have been ratified by all the member states, but spokesmen for the French, Spanish and Irish governments said that no negotiations on extending the Community were possible until ratification was completed.

Mr Major did not offer any shopping list of the EC directives that he wanted revoked, and his officials were unable to detail them after the summit meeting. Jacques Delors, the president of the European Commission, has told colleagues that he asked the prime minister which EC laws he would like to see rescinded when they met in London earlier this week. However, he said that he was surprised that he had received no detailed answer.

Delay over top pay

The tricky decision over top people's pay has been put off for at least another two weeks while John Major deliberates on whether to accept recommendations from the Top Salaries Review Body.

The body's report, delivered to Downing Street yesterday, is understood to recommend pay rises of up to 30 per cent for senior civil servants, judges and military personnel. Page 6

Aids ruling

Legal action against people with HIV and Aids who knowingly spread the disease was ruled out by health secretary Virginia Bottomley, who said criminalising sufferers would worsen rather than ease the epidemic. Page 2

Gang rape

Scores of women trapped on a ship carrying Somali refugees to Yemen were raped in violence which left 70 dead at the hands of a gang on the boat. Page 10

Women's say

After a 14-hour Bundestag debate, German women won the final say in whether they want an abortion, but mainly Catholic Bavaria said it would challenge the decision in the constitutional court. Page 11

Record win

Great Britain's rugby league team equalled its highest margin of victory over Australia with a 33-10 win in Melbourne, levelling the series at 1-1. Page 31

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Point made: a pitchfork-stabbed dummy farmer sits on one of 300 tractors which blocked Euro Disneyland yesterday in protest at US influence on farm reforms

French stirring 1,000 years of rivalry, says Gummer

By MICHAEL HORNSBY AND MICHAEL MCCARTHY

BRITAIN yesterday presented France with detailed allegations of deliberate attacks by French trawlers on English fishing vessels off the Cornish coast earlier this week. John Gummer, the agriculture and fisheries minister, accused the French of "stirring up a thousand years of rivalry and hatred".

Mr Gummer's astonishing outburst came before he met Louis Mermaz, the French agriculture minister, to hand over a dossier of evidence based on interviews with the skippers of the English boats.

After lunching with M Mermaz on smoked Scottish salmon and English lamb at the ministry of agriculture, Mr Gummer was in less sullen mood and softened his earlier comments by saying that although Britain and France had quarrelled over the centuries they had also had great agreements and fought together in two world wars, but he added that he had told M Mermaz he would expect "immediate and very tough action" to punish the fishermen.

For his part, the French minister seemed anxious to sound a conciliatory note, expressing confidence that matters could be sorted out "with the friendship which is necessary between our two great countries".

In Concarneau, Brittany, Henri Jeantet, the owner of the *Larche*, one of the French trawlers involved in the clashes, dismissed the British version of events as grossly exaggerated. He said: "My captain admits that he fouled a couple of the nets, but he never did it deliberately. He would never do that." He denied that there had been any physical attacks on the English vessels.

According to the British account, the French trawlers deliberately towed their nets

through the areas where the English boats were fishing, tearing the tangle nets from their anchorage and causing thousands of pounds worth of damage. One of the Cornish boats, the *St Ury*, also alleges that metal pipes and chains were thrown at her wheelhouse when she attempted to approach the *Larche* to advise on the position of her nets.

Cornish fishermen in Newlyn were unimpressed by Mr Gummer's verbal attack on the French and said the British government was their main enemy. Fishing organisations are furious over proposed conservation legislation that will limit the number of days a year fishing vessels spend at sea. They say this will merely allow foreign vessels to take an even bigger share of British fish stocks.

Dwindling stocks, page 3
Leading article, page 15

Ousted BP boss stands to receive £2m payoff

By OUR BUSINESS STAFF

ROBERT Horton, the former chairman and chief executive of BP who was ousted in a boardroom coup on Thursday, is likely to receive more than £2 million as a result.

The departure of Mr Horton, who last year earned £850,000 in salary and bonuses, was announced after the London market had closed, but BP shares immediately plunged in New York. Yesterday the fall in BP's share price was £1.8 billion from the value of Britain's biggest oil company, and knocked 23 points off the London stock market.

Mr Horton, only two years

in the chair, was unpopular within the company: during his chairmanship he sacked thousands of staunch BP middle managers who had thought they had jobs for life. When he was originally mooted for the BP chair, he told a colleague: "If I am made chairman, [David] Simon will stay on as my trusted lieutenant. If he is made chairman, I will leave." Mr Simon has now taken over as BP's chief executive.

£1.8bn off BP
and Carol Leonard, page 19
Temps, page 20
Stock market, page 22

This little chauvinist pig went to Wimbledon

By SIMON BARNES

IT IS an annual ritual. We have the yearly scandal of the overpriced strawberries, the yearly suggestion of a sliding roof over centre court to keep out the rain, and the annual piece of out-and-out chauvinist-piggery. This year it came from Richard Krajicek, a 20-year-old Dutch player, who lost his third round match at Wimbledon yesterday.

"Eighty per cent of the top women players are lazy fat pigs who should not be allowed on the show courts," he said on Dutch radio. Naturally, we press people thronged to his post-match press conference to hear more. "I was exaggerating a little bit," he said. "I meant 75 per cent."

"My body fat is lower than his," said Martina Navratilova, when someone was brave enough to report Krajicek's remarks to the nine-times Wimbledon champion. We reported this back to

Krajicek. "Martina is not a fat pig," he pronounced. "She is not thick."

Another difference between Navratilova and Krajicek is that she won. "You don't judge people on their appearance, you judge them on their ability to play tennis," said Martina. "Sure, it's insulting. There is no reason to make statements like that."

Krajicek wasn't trying to gain cheap publicity. He was just in a sulk about the old canard of equal prize-money. Women get the same money as men in two of the four Grand Slam tournaments: in Australia and in the United States. Not in Paris, and no, not at Wimbledon. The winner of the gentlemen's singles at Wimbledon this year will receive £265,000; the winner of the ladies' singles £240,000. Either way, the money must help with the mortgage.

"I mean, we play five sets and they only play three sets. Don't you think it's ridiculous?" Krajicek said. A lot of

women like the idea of playing five sets of tennis. The difference in match-length is just an outdated convention. "We play much more," Krajicek grumbled on. "We get equally paid — so actually we get less paid if you look at it that way." Still, the idea of tennis as piece-work has yet to catch on. Perhaps the players should be paid by the game? Or by the shot?

It was left to Martina to add a breath of common sense and humanity to the proceedings. "The only reason this tournament is so big is because both men and women play. That is what makes the tournament, and that's why there should be equal prize-money."

But when asked what she might say to Krajicek, who was following her in the interview room, she gave a final, dazzling smile and declared: "I'm going to beat him up."

Wimbledon reports, pages 36-6



Thousands of school holiday bargains likely

Nearly half a million holidays for the busiest six weeks of the year are still going begging. Now the tour operators are playing cat and mouse to try to avoid cutting prices on the sacrosanct school holiday peak. Harvey Elliott thinks they will have little choice

TENS of thousands of peak summer holidays could be on sale at knock-down prices by the end of next week as Britain's tour operators face up to having to sell off packages for whatever they can get.

Heavily discounted deals are almost unheard of during the school summer holidays, when well over three million people usually go away. But this year some 400,000 packages are still available because the travel industry gravely miscalculated the number of holidays it should offer, increasing capacity by more than 30 per cent when demand had risen by at best 10 per cent.

crucial. I cannot believe there will be major discounting, because to do so would amount to committing commercial suicide. So far this summer, holidays have been selling at discounts of up to 40 per cent and tour operators badly need a good peak season to maintain their revenues.

Peter Rothwell of Lunn Poly, Britain's biggest travel agency chain, said: "There is still spare capacity in quite large numbers through July and August. People are certainly still coming in to book, but there just too many holidays on sale."

As the tour operators have to pay hotels and airlines in advance, then recoup the money from customers, any left unsold represents a direct loss. That is why prices have been cut to the bone in recent weeks with £259 packages going for as little as £139 within a week of departure.

Tour operators have, however, so far refused to cut peak period prices, hoping that they will sell remaining stock at full price and help to recoup some of their recent losses. But unless there is a sudden, and unlikely, rush to buy over the next few days, packages will have to be sold cheaply.

Roger Allard of Owners Abroad, the second-biggest tour operator, is convinced that there will be some discounting during the peak season. "Some destinations, such as Cyprus, Turkey, Greece and luxury villas in Majorca have gone already," he said. "But you can't buck the market and it is tough out there."

If the big operators do cut their prices, the effect will be felt most by small specialist organisations that will have to match to stay in business. Noel Josephides, chairman of the Association of Independent Tour Operators, which represents 120 small companies, said: "We are all in the same boat. Some destinations are already 90 per cent sold and others are only 50 per cent."

Few operators will talk about such a possibility for fear of making it inevitable, but they are watching each other's sales figures from day to day, knowing that the first to cut prices could start a chain reaction.

Andrew Wilson, commercial director of Thomas Cook said: "What happens to sales over the next few days is

"Customers will have to decide whether they want to book now and get a holiday where they want, when they want, but at the brochure price."

Continues on page 18, col 8

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Minister rules out legal action against Aids carriers

By JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

LEGAL action against people with HIV and Aids who knowingly spread the disease was ruled out yesterday by Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary. Criminalising sufferers would worsen rather than halt the epidemic, she said.

The recent case of the south Birmingham man alleged to have infected several women had focused people's minds on the risks of casual, unprotected sexual intercourse. Mrs Bottomley told NHS managers meeting in Harrogate. But she added: "I am not convinced that it would be appropriate to pursue legal redress or statutory measures in this or similar cases. To drive HIV and Aids sufferers underground, to criminalise them, could so easily be

counter-productive in our drive to encourage people to come forward for testing and counselling."

In response to calls from some MPs for more draconian measures, Mrs Bottomley told journalists later that in cases where an individual was behaving irresponsibly and putting lives at risk, local authorities could use powers under the Public Health Control of Diseases Act, 1984, and the Infectious Diseases Regulations, 1985. These provide for a local authority, jointly with the health authority, to apply to a magistrate to remove a patient to hospital and detain them there.

But the act applies only to people suffering from Aids, not those infected with HIV, and it cannot be applied in retrospect. Health department officials said it would be for the courts to decide whether the act could be used to cover a person infected with HIV.

A change to the law was considered and rejected by the cabinet on Thursday when Mrs Bottomley reported on the Birmingham case. Ministers decided not to seek legislation to bring the law into line with Scotland, where prosecutions of people who knowingly spread HIV have been allowed since 1987.

Turning to the question of 24-hour cover by doctors, Mrs Bottomley said that the government remained firmly opposed to any relaxation in GPs' responsibility. She said that she regretted the outcome of the vote at the British Medical Association's conference on Tuesday to end 24-hour commitment. "Access to a family doctor, 24 hours a day in cases of urgent need, is one of the hallmarks of British general practice. I do not want to see it put at risk, nor do patients, who set great store by having access in an emergency to a doctor they know."

Five Scottish children are so ill with HIV complications that their cases have been classified as Aids, it was disclosed yesterday after a speech by the health minister Lord Fraser. He told a conference in Edinburgh: "We know of 44 children who are themselves HIV positive, 12 of whom have already developed Aids." But the latest official Aids figures, published by the Scottish Office earlier this week, showed only seven children with the full blown condition.

The immobilisers are among dozens of new alarm and security systems available mainly on the DIY market. Motor dealers are discovering increasing numbers of cases in which immobilisers have shut down engines while the car is still moving.

Bill Dixon, technical manager of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said yesterday: "There is an awful lot of rubbish on the market as well as some good systems. Manufacturers are clearly worried about people tampering with their car's electronics because of the damage and danger that can occur."



Timely intervention: John McEvoy, who spotted the briefcase bomb under a car just before it exploded

Bomb was meant for mystery target

By STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE Provisional IRA yesterday claimed responsibility for the 2lb briefcase bomb left under a car in a City of London street and said it was aimed at an unspecified prestigious target.

The incident will add to the growing list of IRA attacks on the mainland facing M15 when it takes up responsibility from Scotland Yard's special branch for overseeing counter-terrorist intelligence in Britain.

Yesterday, City of London police issued a call for witnesses and began door-to-door enquiries around the scene of the bomb, close to offices used by the Chase

Manhattan bank in Coleman Street.

The bomb was similar to one left in Victoria Street two weeks ago. This time the device was planted with a warning from a man with an Irish accent who called the BBC minutes before it went off, saying that it would go up in 15 minutes and that there were four others. None was found.

The briefcase was spotted under a white Mercedes convertible by John McEvoy, a security guard. Minutes before it went off he told other security officers to contact police and evacuate the area and was turning away to find the owner of the car when the bomb went off.

The attack is the third on a

target in the City in the past two years. In April, a day after the general election, three people were killed by a car bomb close to the Baltic Exchange. The pattern of such IRA attacks, which have varied considerably since the start of the mainland campaign in 1988, will form part of the intelligence remit for M15 when it takes over.

Within the next few days a joint letter from the security service and the Yard will be sent to all chief constables with a note from Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, setting out what he hopes will happen.

An impatient man who ignored a police cordon sealing off Oxford Street during Thursday night's bomb alert

was jailed for three weeks by a magistrate yesterday. His solicitor later managed to win him bail at a hearing in front of a crown court judge.

Thomas Hyde, 43, from Herne Bay, Kent, was arrested an hour after the explosion while police were still receiving warnings of other possible devices. Marlborough Street magistrate Harold Cook told Hyde: "The police have a difficult enough job to do and behaviour like yours makes it even more difficult and puts the public at risk."

Alan Mullem, for the defence, said Hyde, a site supervisor, was anxious to reach his car at the end of a long, hard day and would lose his £17,000-a-year job.

Stores vow to defy ruling and open on Sunday

MANY supermarkets and DIY chains that open on Sundays will be doing business as usual tomorrow, despite the House of Lords ruling that backed local authorities' powers to curb Sunday trading. Other stores said they would not open under any circumstances.

Most councils said they would wait for the advice of the advocate general to the European Court in Luxembourg on July 8 on the legality of Sunday trading, although a ruling from the court is not expected until the autumn.

Never trade on Sunday? The law lords' ruling has changed few minds, writes Peter Victor

Asda, Tesco, Sainsbury and Safeway will continue to trade on Sunday as they have done. They said the ruling had not helped to clarify the position on Sunday trading and that they would continue to serve the customers who want to shop on Sunday.

Tesco, which has been regularly serving 500,000 customers at 200 stores on Sundays, said: "The law lords' ruling emphasises the need for urgent reform to end the confusion. We believe that customers should have the freedom to shop on Sunday if they wish."

Wickes, the building supplies and DIY retailer involved in the ruling, said 63 of its 65 outlets that normally open on Sunday would do so this weekend. The two Wickes exceptions are the Huddersfield and Dewsbury branches, subjects of the law lords' judgment in the case brought by Kirkcaldy council.

A spokesman for the Co-op said it wished to adhere to the wishes of the Keep Sunday Special campaign and remain closed. "We don't want to go into Sunday trading but we've had to where competitive pressures apply."

Selfridges had no plans to open on Sunday. Sears group, its parent company, said it hoped it would not be drawn into a position where it

had to open some of its 3,750 stores on Sundays.

John Greene, head of corporate affairs for C&A, said the chain would not be opening any stores on Sundays. "We have advertised our stance... We don't really believe we have the right to pick and choose what bits of the law we will choose to ignore. We feel particularly unhappy about what I can only describe as the anarchy that has been going on around us for the last six months or so."

Kirkcaldy council in West Yorkshire said it was writing to Sunday trading stores in its area to underline their obligation to observe the law. "If they uphold the law then we will take no further action. But if not, then we will react to complaints about Sunday trading and prosecute," a spokesman said. The council's stance, however, was in contrast to that of many other councils.

Wakefield said: "It is a little premature to start taking injunctions today against Sunday traders and then find they have closed this Sunday." Southampton said: "We are basically on hold until we have a decision on Sunday trading from the European Court of Justice."

Exeter was considering the position and Plymouth said the judgment would not necessarily lead to a range of prosecutions. Bournemouth said: "It is a very grey area. Most people will be waiting to see what happens in the EC." Birmingham said: "Our policy has been to uphold the law. We have carried on with bringing cases."

Teaching initiative extended

By JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Patten, the education secretary, yesterday announced an extension of the government's £25 million programme to create centres of excellence in technology teaching.

The first 100 beneficiaries of the Technology Schools Initiative will receive up to £500,000 each this financial year. Mr Patten has invited further bids for 1993-4, although the size of the fund has yet to be determined.

Technology has become a problem subject since Britain made its study compulsory. The national curriculum is being rewritten on Mr Patten's orders, after criticism from inspectors, academics and industrialists.

Few city technology colleges have been opened because of lack of business sponsorship. They were intended to provide a national network of elite technical institutions, but only 15 have been approved, 13 of which are already open.

The initiative was launched last year as an alternative for local authority and grant maintained schools. Some authorities refused to take part. Others criticised the share of the fund allocated to grant maintained schools. Six form colleges were urged yesterday to offer more vocational courses when they become independent next April, by Nigel Forman, the education minister, at a conference for college principals in Cambridge.

Halford refuses to discuss allegation

Alison Halford, the suspended Merseyside assistant chief constable who is claiming sex discrimination, refused to answer questions at her industrial tribunal yesterday about an alleged familiarity at a seaside conference with an unnamed chief constable. Miss Halford, 52, was asked at the tribunal about references in her diary to the chief constable whom she met at an Association of Chief Police Officers conference in Eastbourne, East Sussex.

John Hand, QC, representing James Sharples, chief constable of Merseyside, asked whether she had applied to the unnamed police chief to be his deputy. Miss Halford replied: "I am not prepared to answer that. Mr Hand." He continued: "I am dealing with this in the most discreet way I possibly can. You said you are not prepared to answer. Will you answer this next question? It [the diary] suggests there was a degree of familiarity between you and the person mentioned there." Miss Halford again refused to answer.

She was being cross-examined on the 27th day of the tribunal in Manchester, where she claims she was denied nine promotions to deputy chief constable because of sex discrimination by Mr Sharples. Sir Philip Myers, the regional inspector of constabulary, the Home Secretary and Northamptonshire police authority.

Howard calls for era of council co-operation

Michael Howard, the environment secretary, called yesterday for a new era of co-operation and understanding between central and local government, declaring that neither he nor the Cabinet wanted to centralise powers in Whitehall. Addressing an at times sceptical audience at the annual conference in Scarborough of the Association of District Councils, Mr Howard said: "The message for the year 2000 has to be partnership, partnership between government, local authorities, the private sector and, first among equals, individual citizens."

His conciliatory tone was laced with a firm warning to councils that the government would not hesitate to chargecap them if they attempted to increase the burdens on local people next April when the new council tax replaces the community charge.

Ship holed by rocks

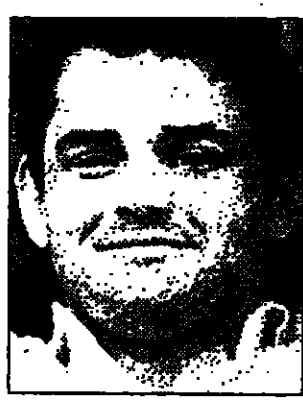
A hole was gouged in the 2,000-tonne *Granduelle* when the vessel hit rocks, known as the Maidens, five miles off Larne, Northern Ireland, last night. The crew of 20 stayed on board as the ship limped back to Larne but 21 non-crew members were taken ashore. The 21 were from the Commissioners of Irish Lights, the body that services lighthouses and buoys around the Irish coast. They were on their way to service the lighthouse at the Maidens. Clyde Coastguard said: "As the vessel was not irretrievable the master took the precaution of evacuating non-essential personnel so that he could try and take the ship back to Larne."

Tears for Ravenscraig

Workers at the Ravenscraig steel plant, near Glasgow, were said to have been in tears yesterday after finishing their final shifts before the plant closes today. They were told to leave the complex only two hours into the working day. Tommy Johnston, deputy union convenor, said: "There were a lot of guys with tears in their eyes as they said goodbye to old friends at the gate." More than 4,000 jobs have been lost at Ravenscraig and Clydesdale in the past two years. Officially, the plant's last day is today. Motherwell District Council will mark the closure by releasing black balloons outside the gates at noon. Scottish National Party councillors intend to boycott the event, which they called an insult to the workforce. They will lay two wreaths at the gates. British Steel announced the closure of Ravenscraig in January.

Carling libel award

Will Carling, right, the England rugby union captain, accepted undisclosed libel damages and an apology from the *Daily Mirror* over a report that he used an obscene swear word during a television broadcast. The High Court was told that an article in October 1991 wrongly quoted Mr Carling, 26, as swearing during a team talk on the eve of the World Cup semi-final match between England and Scotland.



Sir Richard Francis

Sir Richard Francis, director general of the British Council and a former director of BBC news and current affairs, died in hospital yesterday aged 58. Sir Richard joined the BBC as a trainee after army service, and as a producer on *Panorama* covered wars in the Congo and Vietnam. In 1972, he left his post as assistant head of current affairs to become controller, BBC Northern Ireland. He later became a member of the BBC board of management, as director of news and current affairs, and was also managing director of BBC Radio. He left the BBC in 1986 and within a year was director general of the British Council. A BBC spokesman said yesterday: "Britain will miss a fine ambassador and all of us will miss a fine colleague and a powerful voice for public service broadcasting." *Obituary, page 17*

Beck's jail appeal

Frank Beck, a convicted paedophile, has been given leave to appeal against life sentences for offences committed during the 13 years he ran Leicestershire's children's homes. Beck, 50, a social worker, was given five life terms and 24 years' jail last November after being convicted of sexually and physically abusing youngsters and former staff until 1986. His appeal before three judges will be heard this year or early next year. A government enquiry into the running of Leicestershire County Council's children's homes during Beck's reign is due to complete hearing evidence next week.

CORRECTION

Our report of the meeting of Lloyd's names (June 25) incorrectly stated that Mr Allan Navratil had lost £650,000. Mr Navratil in fact told the meeting: "I have 650,000 reasons to feel aggrieved," which was a reference to his bank guarantee.

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A SPAT has broken out between the elegant ladies of *Harpies* and *Queen*, the glossy magazine concerned with fashion and the doings of the *beau monde*, and those whom they would doubleless term as the "wimmin" running a new publication known as *Harpies* and *Queen*, devoted to such issues as sexism, poverty, violence and humour.

The problem, you will have guessed, surrounds the title of Scotland's first feminist magazine which, according to the National Magazine Company, publisher of *Harpies* and *Queen*, infringes its trade mark and causes confusion.

The company asked *Harpies* and *Queen* to confirm that they would stop using

The ladies are unhappy. The "wimmin" see no problem. Kerry Gill on a dispute between two very different publications

the name by close of business last night or face court action. Lesley Riddoch, one of the founders of the feminist magazine, said that they had not the slightest intention of doing so. "We think we have a strong case. The word *quines* is an old Scots word still widely used, particularly in the northeast of Scotland. It means lass or young woman and is one of the few words describing women to have no unsavoury undertones. The word would be lost on people south of the border," she said.

Harpies, she said, were

Greek mythical figures who plucked men from the land of the living and took them into the afterworld. They were regarded as dangerous and malevolent female forces, which was the way feminists were regarded in our society. The term *harpies* was used because there were three mythological harpies and there were the three women who established the magazine.

The founders of *Harpies* and *Queen* say they are amazed that anyone could draw a parallel between the two magazines.

Gloria Ricks, of National

Feminist magazine upsets the beau monde

Anglo-French dispute off the Scillies highlights wider issues facing the troubled fishing industry

Nations vie for world's dwindling sea harvest

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE Anglo-French fishing skirmish off the Isles of Scilly is a symptom of a wider battle in which two major powers are chasing the few fish left. Competition for dwindling stocks is not confined to European Community waters. Since Iceland made the first move in the mid-1970s, nearly all maritime countries have declared 200-mile fishing zones and jealously guard access to them.

A striking example of the wealth this can bring is the Falkland Islands which now operate a fishing zone ranging from 150 to 200 miles. Income from the sale of fishing licences is running between £20 million and £30 million a year, enabling the islanders to survive without subsidy from Britain (apart from the cost of defence).

While national fleets compete for dwindling fish stocks within the EC's waters, the Community has been engaged in a long-running dispute with Canada over alleged over-fishing, mainly by long-range Spanish and Portuguese vessels, on the fringes of the Grand Banks off Newfoundland. Parts of the fishing grounds, which have drawn European fishermen for more than 400 years, lie outside Canada's 200-mile zone.

Canada can control fishing within its zone, but valuable species including cod and flounder cross into and out of international waters in seasonal migrations, making them vulnerable to plunder by foreign vessels. The Canadians, who are alarmed by a rapid fall in the number of adult cod capable of spawning, are pressing for coastal states to be given increased rights over fish stocks.

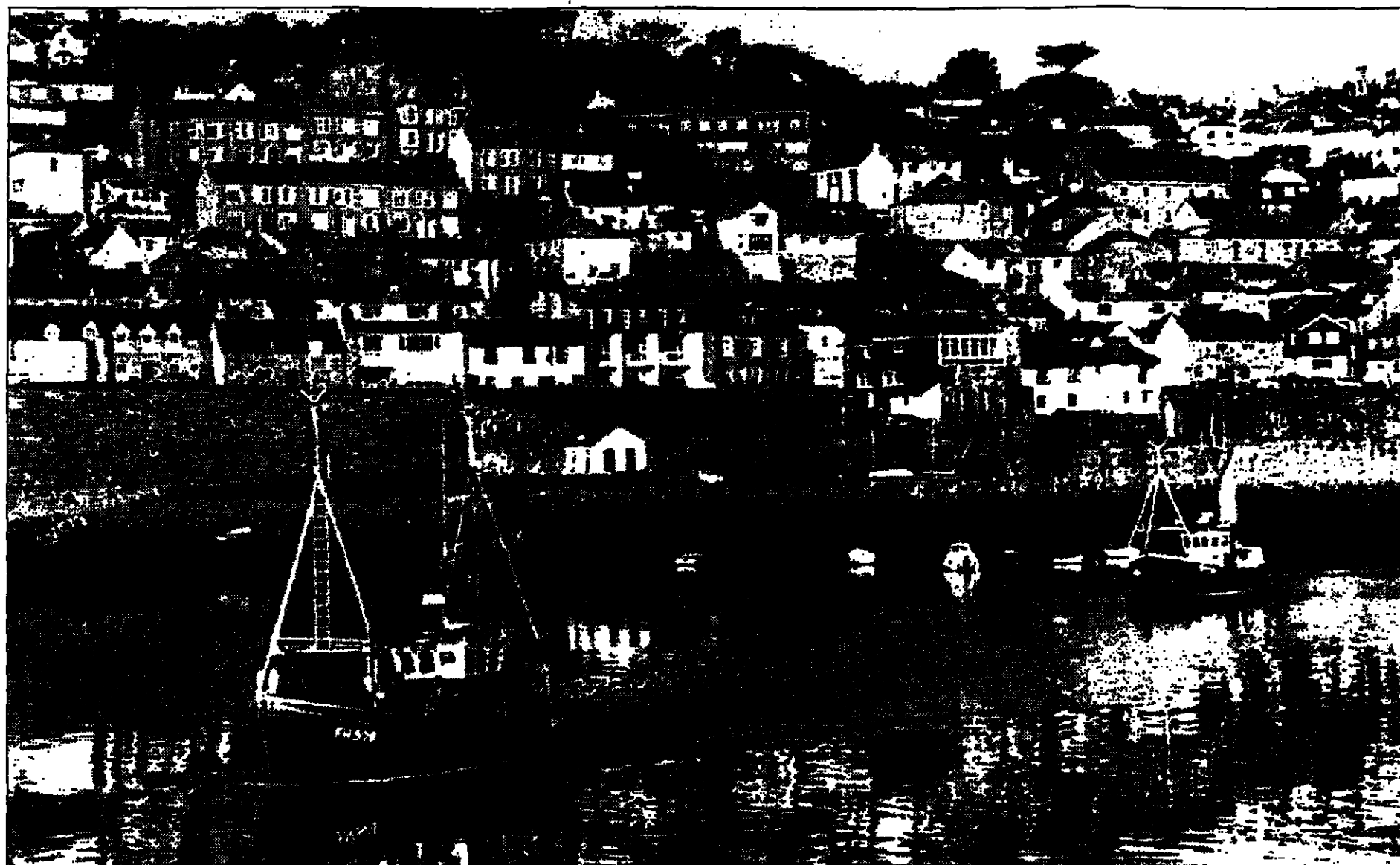
The total world fish catch, of which about a quarter is taken by European boats, has risen fivefold over the past four decades from 20 million tonnes to nearly 100 million tonnes a year, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation.

This expansion has been made possible by rapid technological advance, including on-board freezing and processing that enables fleets to operate far from their home ports.

Many of the more familiar species of fish are severely depleted or being fully exploited. One avenue for expansion is aquaculture, or fish farming, which already accounts for about 12 per cent of world fish production. Salmon farming now employs more people in Scotland than coal mining.

In the EC, the main worry is the rapid decline since the late eighties of North Sea cod and haddock. That is attributed partly to over-fishing, and the use of nets that catch too many juvenile fish, but also to climatic and environmental changes that scientists still do not fully understand.

One way of reducing pressure on cod, haddock, mackerel and other popular fish, which are caught in the relatively shallow waters above the continental shelf, would



All quiet on the western approaches: Britannia IV and Sardia Louise leave Newlyn for calmer waters off the Isles of Scilly yesterday

be to catch less familiar prey in the much deeper waters of the North Atlantic. That would require investment in suitable boats and confidence that there would be a market for the fish.

A drastic reduction in the size of the EC fleet is now generally accepted as being necessary. The government, which encouraged a rapid expansion in the British fleet by over-generous grants for investment in fishing boats in the eighties, is now pushing legislation through Parliament that would give ministers open-ended powers to restrict the number of days fishing vessels can spend at sea, with the aim of reducing the total catch by as much as 30 per cent.

1,000 years of rivalry, page 1
Leading article, page 15

EC blamed as rival crews fish and make up

English and French fishermen are reserving their best broadsides for their own governments, Lin Jenkins reports

IN THE troubled waters of the Western-approaches fishing grounds, the *entente cordiale* was restored yesterday. Two of the Cornish fishing boats involved in Wednesday's skirmishes returned to retrieve their nets in the shadow of HMS *Alderney*, the fishery protection vessel, as a stricken French trawler limped in to their home port of Newlyn.

There was no sign of the animosity of recent days. Relationships were friendly as the French boat, not one of those implicated in the clashes, sought help for her damaged propeller. At sea, the *Britannia IV* and *Sardia Louise* saw no French vessels.

Cornish fishermen were keen to dispel suggestions

that clashes with the French were a big issue. Indeed, they rounded on John Gummer, the fisheries minister, and the government as the real villains threatening the industry. Elizabeth Stevenson, secretary of the Cornish Fish Producers' Organisation, said she wished Mr Gummer would be as brave in defending the industry as he was in criticising the French.

"The UK government has made a total lach-up of the whole British fishing industry. We have got any EC member state, nearly all the

fish are in our waters, and we have the lowest amount of fish in our quota of all the countries," she said.

Fishermen from Newlyn, England's foremost fishing port, with a catch worth over £20 million last year, will be joining others from around the country for a protest over quotas in London on July 7. There is also deep resentment over 160 Spanish and 60 Dutch fishing boats registered under the British flag and whose catches come off the British quota, although sold abroad.

Andrew Munson.

Newlyn's harbour master, was playing down the trouble. After 20 years in his job he now doubles as the French consul in the area, so found his affinity split.

"We work a lot with the boats from Brittany. We have a good liaison and everyone gets on well. The problem is that there are too many boats chasing too few fish," he said.

The trouble stemmed from the fact that the fishing grounds were off the British coast and looked as if they ought to belong to Britain. "But unfortunately with the EC we are not allowed to say that." For Newlyn, with its 60 netters and 60 trawlers, the threat did not come from the French. "Our heyday as a fishing port has gone, but that's because of the restric-

tions facing the industry," he said.

The town's mayor, Jack Dixon, believed the incident would be no more than a hiccup in the relationship with their twin town Concarneau, ironically the home of the rogue French trawlers. "If anything this dispute will only make our twinning links stronger."

John Gummer was not the only landlubber getting it in the neck. Herve Jeantet, the director-general of Dhelemmes, the company that owns the *Larche*, described the British reaction to the affair as "excessive" and said that Charles Josselin, the French marine minister, had been disloyal to Breton fishermen by siding with the English.

	Vessels	Tonnage
Belgium	215	25,000
Germany	800	85,000
Denmark	4,000	130,000
Spain	20,000	550,000
France	11,000	200,000
Ireland	1,500	55,000
Italy	20,000	300,000
Holland	1,000	180,000
Portugal	15,000	190,000
Britain	10,000	80,000

Source: European Commission
Figure are estimates based on 1989 data

Villagers plot fight with duke

By PAUL WILKINSON

Vegetable growers in Treeton, near Rotherham, a mining hamlet, are horrified because a southern toff plans to turn their allotments into a shopping and housing complex.

Never mind that only two are cultivated and the rest are occupied by waist-high grass and pigeon lofts, or that the toff is Duke of Norfolk and Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal and Chief Butler of England, the country's leading duke and earl and one of its wealthiest landowners.

His grace has reclaimed the family's ancient ownership of the site of the village pit which British Coal closed in February. His estate administrators plan a huge new development of the area, which includes Treeton's cabbage patches.

The parish council, which leases the allotments from the duke, says their poor condition could mean the land will be lost by default. The tenants, who pay 75p rent a year, are complaining like only Yorkshiremen can.

Ron Windle, one of the councillors, said: "It's well-known the duke wants these allotments back and we are playing into his hands if they are allowed to continue in this state."

Margaret, his wife, who also sits on the parish council, said the village was split on the development. "Younger people would be happy to see the derelict colliery site cleaned up, but older villagers and the allotment holders wanted them to stay. If they are to stand any chance of keeping them, they are going to have to get stuck in and cultivate them to show they care about them."

Nicholas Robinson, the duke's agent on the estate, said objections to the loss of allotments were expected. "If this plan goes ahead there will be a land exchange deal which will mean the village will have more public open spaces and land for allotments and we believe that most of the village would benefit."



Saved from the sea: Stephen Evans after being winched from the stranded boat on Monday

Boat rescue boy feared drowning

ONE of the teenagers rescued after two days adrift in the Bristol Channel told yesterday how he watched powerlessly as rescue boats and aeroplanes passed by without noticing his boat. Stephen Evans, 15, said that he was in constant fear of drowning and spent much of the second day unconscious from severe sunburn.

"A helicopter kept passing us and we were standing up waving our T-shirts and a towel. But they just didn't see us," he said at his home in Armanford, Dyfed, where he is recovering from the burns and from shock. "The waves were quite high and the boat was well down in the water. We must have been a tiny dot to them."

He and his friends Gareth Smith, 18, and Simon Roberts, 19, set off in a new speedboat from Pendine, Dyfed, last Saturday. Stephen was rescued from the boat by helicopter off Lundy Island on Monday after Gareth swam to the island and raised the alarm. Simon is still missing after trying to swim back to South Wales on the Saturday, after the boat's engine failed.

"On the Saturday, after Simon went into the water and swam off, I was hopeful that he would have reached the shore and raised the alarm," Stephen said. "But as time went on, I began to realise

that he could have drowned. On Saturday night, we could see the lights of the shore and, at one time, there was a very bright light pointing towards us. It seemed to flash straight at me and I thought: 'That's it - we've been seen.' But nothing happened."

"On the Sunday, we drifted until we were out of sight of the coast. We knew because of the number of planes and boats passing us that they were searching for us. But we just weren't spotted... there was nothing we could do."

"I don't remember anything about the second day, the Monday. I was unconscious for most of the time and Gareth said I was just staring blankly out to sea. I don't remember him going over the side and swimming towards the island. I don't even remember seeing an island. My only recollection is waking up in a hospital bed."

"All my life I have been scared that I might drown. It is not that I am afraid of the water, because I can swim, but I am dead scared of drowning... going under and not coming up again."

He was still under medical supervision yesterday, after suffering nightmares and vomiting. Gareth is in hospital in Barnstaple, Devon. Searchers are still trying to find Simon, although his family say they have accepted that he drowned.

Maxwell pensioners may sue

By TIM JONES

THOUSANDS of former employees of Robert Maxwell are considering suing some of the Mirror Group Newspapers' board of directors for £60 million.

The threat comes from people who were employed by various Maxwell publishing companies. They say certain MGN directors did not do enough to stop Maxwell's fraud and therefore bear some responsibility.

In a separate development, liquidators seeking to recoup assets for Maxwell pensioners are to seek summary judgments in the High Court next month for more than £400 million. Mr Justice Millett yesterday refused an application for the hearing to be deferred until September.

The Home Office denied that City of London Police or the Serious Fraud Office had tipped off the press about the arrests of Ian and Kevin Maxwell. In a Commons written reply, Charles Wardle, a junior minister, said it was policy that no information about impending arrests and searches should be given to the media.

Four found guilty of huge racket in stolen cars

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

FOUR men were convicted yesterday of taking part in the biggest stolen car racket ever investigated by Scotland Yard, involving hundreds of cars worth millions of pounds. Popular high-performance cars were taken off London streets and resold with new identities, Southwark Crown Court, south London, was told.

The cars, ranging from Porsches to Peugeot 205 GTis and Ford Escort RS Turbos, were advertised in weekly magazines at just below the market price to cash buyers. Unknown to the buyers, the cars had been given the details of insurance write-offs after passing through the ring's specialist workshop.

Yesterday, after a three-month trial, the jury convicted Clarence Burrows, 31, of south Croydon, south London; Richard Emmanuel, 26, of Kingston, south London; Anthony McDonald, 34, mechanic, of Norwood, south London; and Neville Hamilton, 36, a self-employed electrician, of Stratford, east London. They will be sentenced on Monday by Judge John Rogers, QC. Three other men were acquitted.

The four were charged with conspiracy to handle stolen goods involving a specimen number of 60 cars, half of which were Peugeots.

Police estimate the gang probably handled hundreds more cars worth millions of pounds. Officers traced eight cars exported to the West Indies.

One of the investigators said: "This was a sophisticated, organised gang of criminals, not a jeans and T-shirt gang. They were smartly dressed people dealing mainly in cash."

Led by Burrows, a young businessman, the gang operated a simple but efficient system, buying cars which had been crashed and written off by insurance companies. The cars, available for £500 to £1,200, are often sold to dealers and enthusiasts and the deals raised no suspicion: the cars can be used for spare parts or renovated. The advantage to the gang was that they often came with all their identification and log books.

The cars would be stripped of any identification and broken down. The gang would organise the theft of a car which closely matched the

wreck. The cars would be taken from the streets of south and southwest London. Police suspect young thieves may have worked to order.

Once delivered the stolen car would be altered at a garage run by McDonald. New identification plates and numbers taken from the scrapped car would be expertly fixed.

To complete the new identity, the gang forged service histories, cleaned the cars professionally and added details such as the stickers of genuine dealers. Emmanuel placed the advertisements in magazines and dealt with sales.

The gang first came under suspicion in 1989 after the Yard's stolen car squad received intelligence about stolen car operations. A special team of eight officers began investigations and mounted long-term observations on the garage in Brixton, south London.

Over months the officers in Operation Scallion built up details of cars coming and going and then began tracing back their origins. In November 1990, 140 officers carried out a series of raids.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Diana: her true story

I often ask myself: How can all these people want to see me? And then I get home and lead this mouse-like existence. Noody says Well Done!

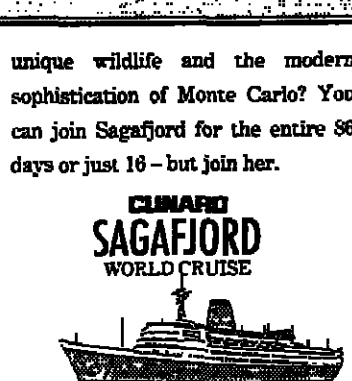


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How Enfield began a cash revolution

THEY might remain a mystery to some, but hole-in-the-wall cash machines have undoubtedly revolutionised modern living since being introduced 25 years ago in north London. Yesterday the two men who pioneered the first machine were back outside Barclays Bank in Enfield to commemorate the anniversary.

John Shepherd-Barron and Ron Everett sipped champagne and orange juice and helped to unveil a plaque. Mr Everett, 68, a former bank employee who helped to persuade his superiors to try Mr Shepherd-Barron's invention, admitted that he resorted to a spot of skulduggery to ensure the success of the launch, in which the machine was supposed to dispense ten £1 notes to the comedian Reg Varney and Sir Thomas Bland, vice-chairman of Barclays.

"I was so apprehensive that when they pressed the button no money would come out, that I went inside, opened the safe and got £10 of notes. When they hit the

Nick Nuttall marks the 25th birthday of the machine that has become the shopper's saviour

button, I put the money in the drawer so it was there when they pulled it out," he said.

Subsequent mishaps with successors of the Enfield machine include people getting their fish and chips, shopping and even false teeth stuck behind the covers of malfunctioning cash-points, but they have not stopped the spread of the machines. There are now 18,000 in place across the country. Nearly two thirds of personal cash in Britain is withdrawn from them.

The devices have spawned the personal identification number (Pin) new kinds of crime and even a transatlantic love affair. Some machines, made by NCR in Dundee, had taped voice instructions spoken by a

women with soft Tayside tones. So enraptured was the customer of one American bank that he demanded to know her name and arranged to meet her.

Mr Shepherd-Barron, now 67, invented the first machine when he worked for De La Rue systems. It was operated by customers inserting cheque-style vouchers, which carried a punch hole code and were slotted into a drawer. The machine used light rays to match the code on the voucher with the one punched in by the customer. A packet of notes was then put into a second drawer, which the customer pulled out.

Despite the success of cash machines, they still remain a mystery to some. Yesterday Eric Jukes, 45, of Enfield, said that he had never touched one in his life, though he banked at the branch that installed the first machine. Mr Jukes said he was happy to use chocolate dispensing machines because, if they went wrong, "you only lose six pence. I suppose I should use one



Cash and carry: Sir Anthony Norman using the first machine 25 years ago. He was chairman of De La Rue, the firm that made the machine. Right, one of a series of raids earlier this year in which thieves used heavy machinery to break in and uproot cashpoints



once," he said. "I do not want on my epitaph, 'He never used a cash machine in his life.'"

□ Criminal imaginations have been fired by the machines as fraudsters look for ways to cash in on the easy money stored inside (Michael Horsnell writes).

Forklift trucks and bulldozers have proved on a number of occasions to be the most straightforward

means of relieving banks and building societies institutions of their money but, as systems have become more complex, so have the methods of the thieves.

Scotland Yard is investigating a nationwide fraud, centred on travelling groups of bona fide auctioneers, who visit specially hired hotel reception rooms, village halls and leisure centres, selling anything from electrical

goods to art. Security subcontractors are hired, who ostensibly check on the authenticity of cheque and credit cards and the creditworthiness of their holders at the start of an auction.

Buyers are asked to disclose their Pins for verification by tapping them into portable machines. With the numbers and information from the cards, the criminals have been able to make bo-

gus cards with magnetic strips acceptable to cash machines. Hundreds of victims have lost up to £2,000 each since the racket first came to police attention two months ago. A Scotland Yard spokesman yesterday appealed to people never to disclose their Pins.

Card fraud in Britain is estimated to be worth £165 million a year. Banks admit to only £3 million involving

hole-in-the-wall machines. The banks maintain that it is impossible to manufacture an acceptable magnetic strip from information printed on receipts for cash withdrawals. Nevertheless, in the mid-1980s, a New York bank worker withdrew money after watching customers type in their Pins and picking up discarded receipts, before making cards to fool the machines.

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Churches head for £8m debt

By RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Bishop of Leeds has asked Roman Catholic churchgoers to give the equivalent of one hour's pay a week to stop the diocese sliding millions of pounds into debt.

The Right Rev David Konstant said that some people who could give more were putting only a few pence on the collection plate. Even £1 was only small change, he said.

"If we really want to support the work of the church, it is enough just to give a tip?" Parishes could aim to double the collection, he said.

The diocese, which covers West Yorkshire and parts of North Yorkshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester and Lancashire, could be £2 million in debt by March next year and £8 million in the red by 1996, the bishop said.

He has issued an appeal that will be read from pulpits or played over public address systems at services today and tomorrow. The bishop said that 15 per cent of the congregation gave about 85 per cent of contributions.

Of 175,000 Catholics in the diocese, about 57,000 attend mass regularly. The diocese has been plunged into debt by new churches, rising repair and maintenance costs, the recession and a £3 million reorganisation of Catholic schools in Leeds. Most of the diocese's money is spent on its 105 schools, which have a total of 33,000 pupils, but the bishop was loath to cut this budget.

The Catholic church has no central funding body equivalent to the Church Commissioners of the Church of England, who contribute to clergy salaries and pay clergy pensions. The typical salary of a Catholic priest is £3,440, met mostly by the parish.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Perfume fakers hunted

A counterfeiting gang believed to be making fake perfume is being sought by trading standards officers after part of its illegal operation was uncovered in Hereford and Worcester.

Police and trading officers yesterday found packaging and labels for fake Calvin Klein and Giorgio Armani scents with a retail value of over £150,000 in two cabins in Redditch.

Malcolm Adams, chief trading standards officer for the county, said that a search had begun for the gang's distillery.

Peak mill saved

Plans for a multi-million-pound timeshare development were rejected after a public enquiry. Inspector ruled that conversion of historic Litton Mill in the Peak District national park would cause material harm to Miller's Dale.

Shots fired

Shots were fired at police pursuing three men who had held up a NatWest bank in Tottenham, north London. Later two men were helping police.

Care charges

Three former care workers were bailed yesterday by Sunderland magistrates on nine charges of causing unnecessary suffering to children six years ago at Witherwick House, a social services home.

Widow's award

Gina Gant, 32, of Netheravon, Wiltshire, the widow of a defence ministry policeman shot dead accidentally by a colleague in 1990, was awarded £315,000 in the High Court.

Island remembers the sailor saint

AFTER 1,400 years of obscurity the memory of St Moluag, one of Scotland's earliest Christian leaders, has been celebrated on the island he snatched from the grasp of St Columba.

Although few people have heard of Moluag, the Irish saint did much to spread the gospel in the western fringes of Scotland. But until this week, he had been consigned to a few half-forgotten references in ecclesiastical history books.

By chance, the Rev Donald Strachan, an Episcopalian minister in the diocese of Glasgow and Galloway, found the date of St Moluag's death, June 592, in an old prayer book. A commemorative service was held this week on the Isle of Lismore, in Loch Linnhe for St Moluag, who beat Columba to take over the island, where a cathedral was founded.

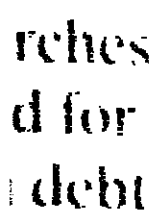
St Moluag arrived from Ireland intent on creating a Celtic monastery on Lismore which, unlike the surrounding area, was lush and green. Legend has it that, as he approached the

A chance find in an old prayer book has saved St Moluag from obscurity, writes Kerry Gill

island, another boat shot out from behind Eilean Dubh – the black isle. It was Columba. The two raced towards the island in their curraghs, boats made of bent wood and skins. Moluag chopped his little finger off with his axe and threw it on to the shingle, declaring that his blood had reached Lismore first. Columba withdrew and Moluag became the first Bishop of Argyll.

This week's service was held by the Right Rev George Henderson, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, his successor. One person celebrating St Moluag's memory was Alastair Livingstone, Baron of Bachelu. The barony is an ecclesiastical title granted to the family by charter so that they would guard St Moluag's black-thorn staff, said to have miraculous powers.

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AIRCRAFT INSPIRED

Major deliberates on top people's pay

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE tricky decision over top people's pay has been put off for at least another two weeks while John Major deliberates on whether to accept recommendations from the Top Salaries Review Body.

The review body report, which was delivered to Downing Street yesterday, is understood to recommend pay rises of up to 30 per cent for senior civil servants, judges and military personnel. The body is chaired by Sir David Nickson, chairman of the Clydesdale bank, and members include Sir Cecil Clothier, Louise Botting, the broadcaster and financial journalist, and Sir Peter Cazalet.

The government has already come under pressure from the Opposition and some Tory MPs not to accept such an "excessive" award. The prime minister will look at the report this weekend when he comes back from Lisbon and the figures will be assessed by Treasury ministers before it is submitted to the cabinet. Downing Street sources made clear that could not be achieved by the next meeting on Thursday. Mr

Major is expected to announce the size of the awards shortly before Parliament rises on July 16, preventing a lengthy dispute.

With ministers discouraging high public-sector pay awards in a drive to keep down inflation, any big increases within Whitehall would be extremely hard to justify. Several of the new Tory MPs who are keen to curb public spending have also privately said a big rise for top public servants would be untenable. Labour MPs have argued that if Mr Major



Botting: member of the salary review body

approves the rises he will undermine his tough stance on the economy.

Successive governments have agreed that review body recommendations should be accepted unless there are "compelling reasons". Previous reports this year have been accepted, although these awards were made before the general election. The prime minister will now have to decide whether he can take the political risk of doing the same with a review which covers 2,000 people, some earning more than £100,000 a year.

A 30 per cent rise would lift the salary of the highest-paid civil servant, Sir Robin Butler, secretary of the cabinet and head of the home civil service, from £102,900 to over £130,000.

This year's report is the first to compare top private and public-sector pay since 1985, when increases of up to 46 per cent provoked a political uproar. A hundred Conservatives either abstained or voted against the government, which, despite a three-line whip, achieved a majority of just 17.



Tarzan and the big cat: Michael Heseltine in the first 217mph XJ220 off the production line at Bloxham, Oxfordshire, yesterday

£400,000 Jaguar gives Heseltine taste of real power

MICHAEL Heseltine praised Jaguar's new £400,000 XJ220 yesterday as a car which showed that Britain "can produce the best". The President of the Board of Trade was watching the first of a limited build of 350 of the world's fastest production car leave the assembly line at an

Oxfordshire factory. After a spin behind the wheel of the car with a top speed of 217mph, his verdict was: "Very exciting. I have never driven a car with so much power before."

Asked what speed he achieved, Mr Heseltine replied: "Thirty miles per hour in a 30 limit and 40mph in a 40 limit." He said that he would not be among the owners of the car because all models had been sold. Mr Heseltine, who bought his first second-hand Jaguar in 1956, said that the technology, aerodynamics and fuel efficiency of the XJ220 would find its way into ordinary

cars. JaguarSport, the manufacturer, would not name the buyers but said that about a hundred models were expected to remain in Britain. The first ten hand-built two-seater vehicles with a 3.5-litre V6 engine will be delivered to customers in the next two weeks.

Gould criticises party's retreat

BY OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRYAN Gould, a contender for the Labour leadership, last night accused the party of "retreating into its shell" because of its electoral defeat.

Speaking at a leadership rally in London, Mr Gould referred to a decision by the party's national executive on Wednesday to shelve the proposed one member one vote system for selecting parliamentary candidates.

"The events last Wednesday show that too many prefer the old style certainties to the new agenda we must now adopt," said Mr Gould, who is also standing for deputy leader. "Unless we are prepared to make changes in our policy and appeal we will not be able to excite the voters after 1996."

John Smith, favourite for the Labour leadership, gave his full backing to the one member one vote system and to reforming links with trade unions. Speaking at the rally, which had been organised by Tribune group, from the soft left, and the Labour Co-ordinating Committee, Mr Smith said that the party would eventually adopt the system, which was postponed for a year after it was decided to include it in a full review of the party's relations with the unions.

"Neil Kinnock's achievements in modernising the Labour party have not been in vain," he said. "We will, I believe, adopt one member one vote for the selection of

candidates, change the system of electing the leadership, and modernise and democratise our relationship with affiliated trade unions."

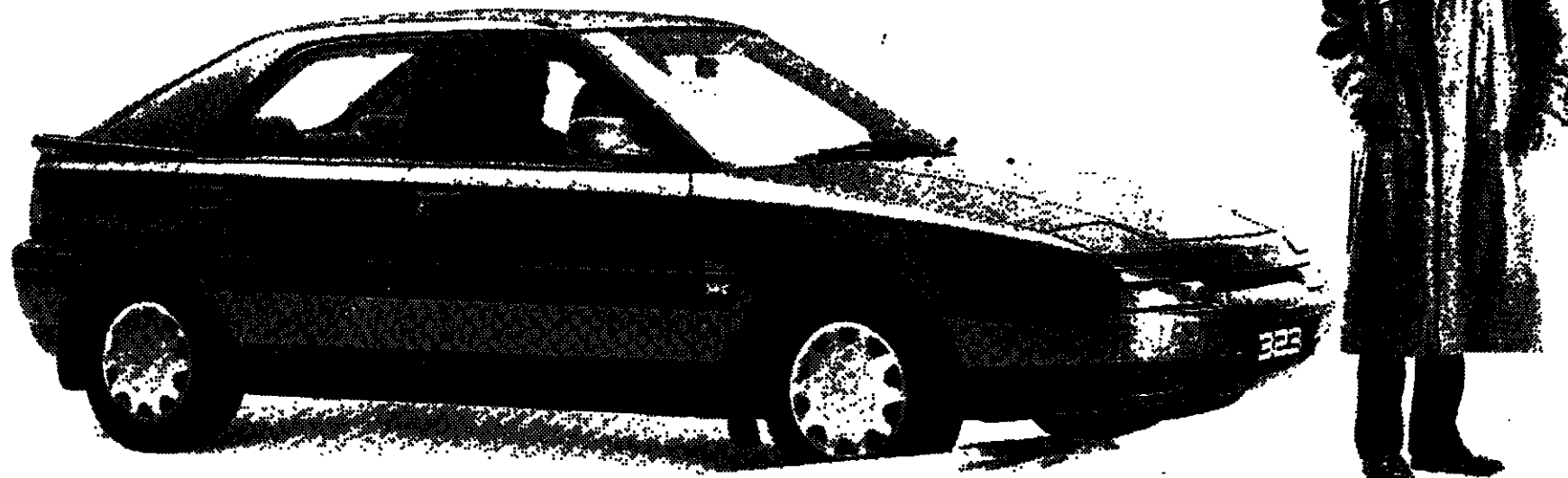
"The party could not rely on 'one more heaven' to win in 1996 or 1997. But he was confident that Labour could and would win power at the next election.

Labour's values of freedom and fairness and of citizenship and community were far more relevant to the aspirations of the British people than were the dogmas of 'laissez-faire' and privatisation that dominated the Conservative party. "At its most simple, I am asserting the primacy of community over markets," he said.

Margaret Beckett, also speaking during the rally in her bid for deputy leader, supported Mr Smith's philosophy of greater power for the community and individual citizens. The party had to take the lead on fundamental social issues such as poverty, education, the tax and benefit system and the financing of political parties.

Labour needed "a determined and united leadership team" to guide the party through changes necessary to the party's structure and its political programme. "Labour must become once again the party of radical ideas," she said.

John Prescott, the other deputy leadership contender, was not at the rally because of another engagement.



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Building Excitement

LSE fails to bid for county hall

BY ROBERT MORGAN
PARLIAMENTARY STAFF

MINISTERS are becoming increasingly impatient with the London School of Economics over its failure to put in a firm bid for county hall, the former headquarters of the Greater London Council. It was disclosed yesterday.

The university had hoped to buy the neo-classical building, which stands on the banks of the Thames opposite the Houses of Parliament. But Robin Squire, an environment minister, told the Commons that it was unlikely the LSE would be able to raise the money, even taking into account the cash raised from the sale of its existing properties.

He said that the London Residuary Body, which is charged with disposing of all former GLC property, was required by law to raise the maximum amount possible for the benefit of the London boroughs and their charge payers.

Mr Squire said yesterday that the LSE should present any new proposals to the London Residuary Body as soon as possible. The LSE had discussed the matter with environment department officials, but had not yet put firm proposals to the residuary body, he added.

Mr Squire denied press reports that the Japanese property developer Shirayama, which wants to convert the riverside building into a hotel, had withdrawn its offer.

AROUND THE LOBBY

Hedgerow survival backed

David Maclean, the environment and countryside minister, speaking during a Commons debate on the countryside, said yesterday that he was to launch a new scheme next month to encourage landowners to preserve their hedgerows.

The government intended to back a bill on the subject being sponsored by Peter Ainsworth, the new Tory member for East Surrey, scheduled for a second reading debate in January.

War secrets

Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, said that the government was considering opening the secret files on a second world war incident, in which charred bodies found on the beach at Bawdsey in Suffolk were said to be Germans killed in a raid on an RAF radar research station.

Victims helped

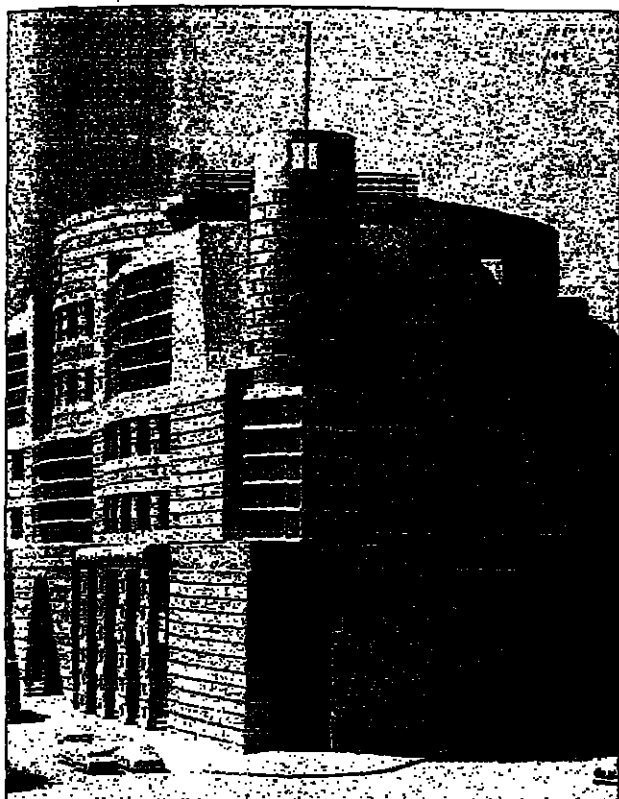
Twelve centres across the country that help victims of crime and family violence are to be given £1.8 million over the next three years, Michael Jack, a Home Office minister, announced in a Commons written reply.

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مركز المناسبات

Build not talk: the guiding maxim of Sir James Stirling, an architect revered by his peers



City battleground: the design for No 1 Poultry, above left, was widely criticised by those who thought that the Mappin & Webb building which still occupies the site was of superior quality



Wireless set finds a mixed reception

BY A STAFF REPORTER

NONE of Sir James's designs proved more controversial than his plans for the Mappin & Webb site opposite the Bank of England and the Mansion House in the City, dismissed by the Prince of Wales as resembling a 1930s wireless set.

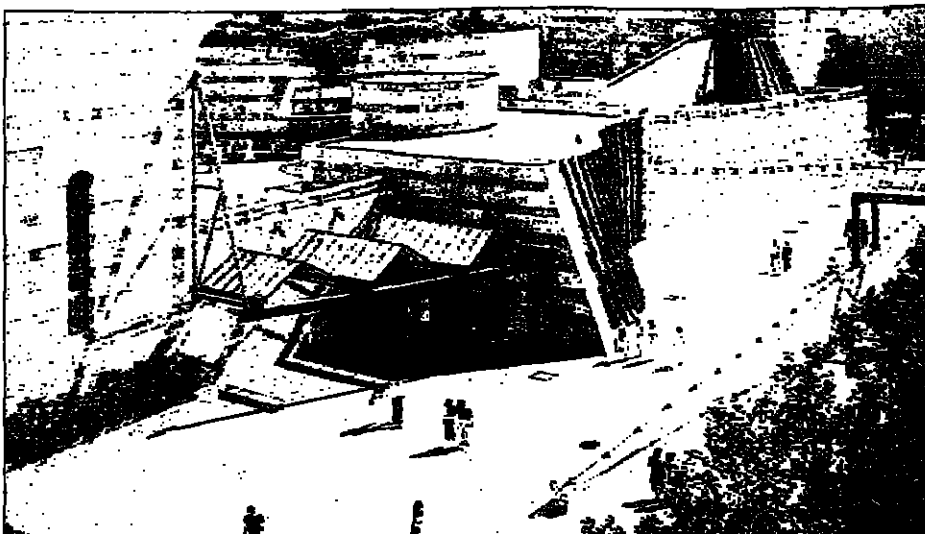
His designs, the subject of many planning meetings, public enquiries and appeals, will now be his final monument to British architecture, Lord Palumbo, his friend and supporter said last night, describing him as "a wise and cultured man".

There was a fierce battle over the proposals to demolish eight listed buildings in the heart of the City's conservation area. Lord Palumbo, owner through his companies of the one-acre site, commissioned a low post-modernist design from Sir James, after a tower by Mies van der Rohe was rejected.

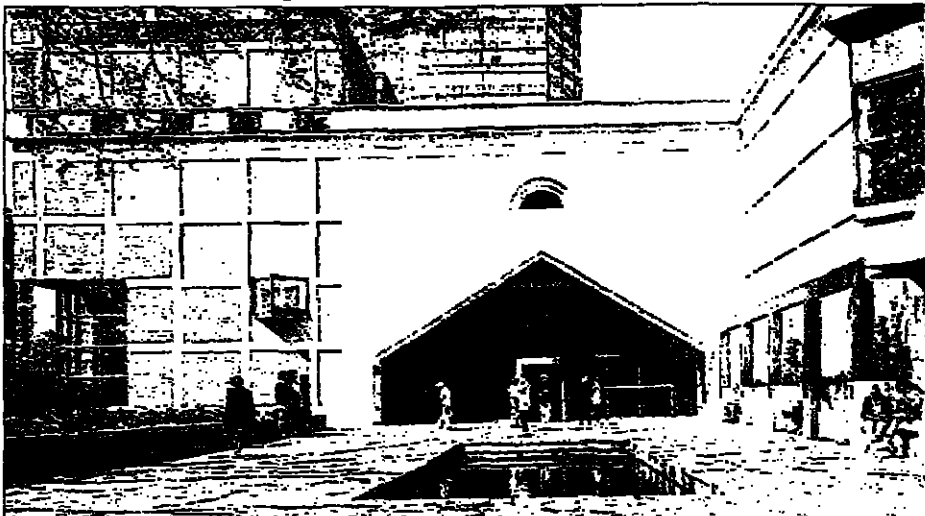
The City of London Corporation rejected the plans and a public enquiry was held in 1987. English Heritage, the Victorian Society, Save and other conservationists backed the corporation's fight to save the buildings. The Royal Fine Art Commission and the Royal Institute of British Architects backed the plans.

Environment department inspectors said that the new building "might be a masterpiece" and approved it. They failed, however, to give clear reasons for their departure from usual policies in favour of preserving listed buildings. Their decision was overturned in the Court of Appeal but reinstated by the House of Lords early last year.

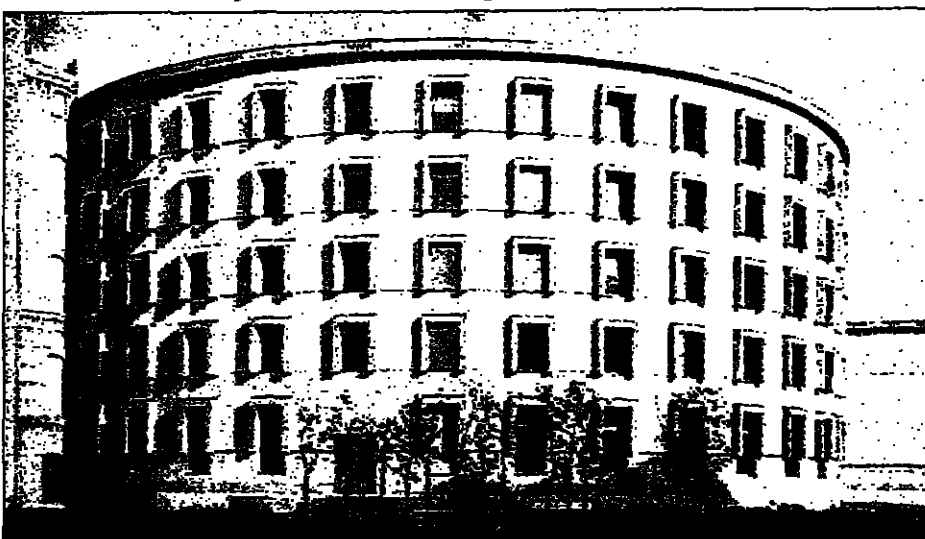
Though planning permission has been granted for the scheme, work cannot begin until Lord Palumbo has gained consent to close the roads through the site, another issue that could become the subject of a third public enquiry.



The Stuttgart Staatsgalerie was a critical success and attracted huge crowds



The Clore Gallery at the Tate was designed to house the Turner exhibition



The WZB science building in Berlin was completed in the late 1980s

Eclectic who inspired by design

BY MARCUS BINNEY
ARCHITECTURE
CORRESPONDENT

SIR James Stirling was a king who had never claimed his crown. No British architect was more revered among his peers and he could have been, had he wished, the unquestioned leader of his profession. But from the early 1960s he adopted the motto of the Finnish architect Alvar Aalto: "Build not talk."

The two buildings that brought him world acclaim were the engineering faculty at Leicester University, regarded as the most forceful piece of 1960s modernism, and the Staatsgalerie at Stuttgart, icon of post-modernism. Sir James was not a man to accept labels or isms and he was a genuine eclectic, admired for his great versatility. A deep man, he could be difficult and prickly, sharing qualities with Nicholas Hawksmoor, with whom he felt a strong spiritual affinity.

Sir James, one critic wrote, "saw Britain at the end of the 1950s declining into provincialism, a nation dotted with prim new towns".

But his creative fire proved a weakness and his practice tended to attract bright sparks more than work-horses. Many of his buildings had structural flaws that

greatly anguished their occupants. His model housing at Runcorn outside Liverpool was recently demolished while for many years the history faculty at Cambridge refused to display plaques commemorating the awards the building had won.

Few such criticisms were made of the Stuttgart gallery which from the start attracted huge attendances, more for its architecture than its contents. Here Sir James revealed himself as a brilliant handler of outdoor and indoor space and of colour, massing and materials.

The admiration he attracted was due in considerable part to the time he spent teaching in London, Yale and Düsseldorf but also to his surpassing talents as an architectural draughtsman. He was in the shortlist for many national and international competitions, repeatedly taking second or third place.

Yet the quality of these competition entries, as much

as his completed buildings, won him a reputation among architects and students perhaps equalled only by that of the Austrian Hans Hollein and the Japanese Arata Isozaki.

It was unquestionably the initial stages of design that appealed to him most. He once said: "Architects are in love with their buildings for maybe a year, maybe two years. After 20 years it's dead. It's like an old love affair. There's nothing dead."

Sir James's intellect as much as his large frame and girth earned him the nickname Big Jim Stirling. His death comes as an intense shock to the architectural profession as he was still at the height of his creative powers.

Although he was awarded the RIBA gold medal before Sir Norman Foster or Sir Richard Rogers, his knighthood came after theirs, only days before his death.

Obituary, page 17



Sir James: king who never claimed crown

Well prepared?

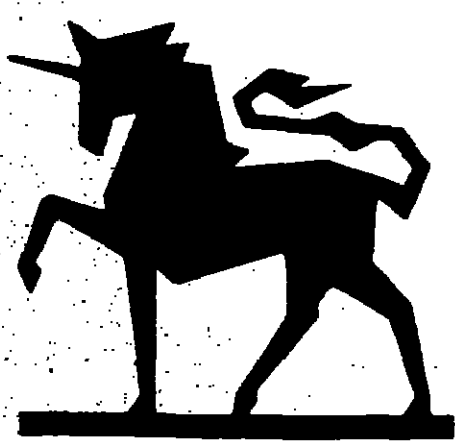
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Iran arms cover-up 'reached the top'

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

OFFICIALS at the highest level of the Reagan administration could be charged this summer with trying to cover up the Iran-Contra scandal, Lawrence Walsh, the special prosecutor in the affair, has told Congress.

Mr Walsh did not name names, but he recently brought perjury charges against Caspar Weinberger and the only three officials above the former defence secretary at that time were President Reagan, George Bush, the vice-president, and George Schultz, the Secretary of State.

Mr Walsh's investigation is now believed to be focusing on a White House meeting on November 24, 1986, at which, he has hinted, Edwin Meese, the attorney-general, staged a contrived ritual designed to suggest Mr Reagan had not known of an illegal shipment of Hawk missiles to Iran in 1985.

Attending the meeting were Mr Reagan, Mr Bush, Mr Schultz, William Casey, the late CIA director, Donald Regan, White House chief of

staff, and John Poindexter, national security adviser. Mr Walsh asserts that several of those present had had "contrary information".

He acknowledged this week that he had offered to drop most charges against Mr Weinberger if he would tell the "rock-bottom truth" about the alleged cover-up. Mr Schultz was also told months ago that he was being investigated.

In a highly unusual report on the status of his five-year investigation, Mr Walsh said he had been thwarted in his attempts to prosecute the "basic operational crimes" committed during the scandal by claims that national security was at stake. He said that newly discovered documents had thrown up "new and disturbing evidence" that had led his enquiries in a new direction.

Those documents included personal notes of key officials, CIA cables and other records previously withheld, and there had been a "significant shift in our understanding of which administration officials

had knowledge of Iran-contra, who participated in its cover-up and which areas required far more scrutiny than we previously believed", Mr Walsh said.

He was trying to determine whether top officials "acting individually or in concert" had "sought to obstruct official enquiries into the Iran initiative... by withholding notes, documents and other information, by lying and by supplying a false account of the 1985 arms sales from Israeli stocks and their replenishment by the US".

The administration had deceived the public about its activities, but it was "a crime to mislead, deceive and lie to Congress when, in fulfilling its legitimate oversight role, the Congress seeks to learn whether administration officials are conducting the nation's business in accordance with the law".

Mr Walsh's investigation has so far cost \$31 million (£16.4 million) and is the butt of increasing Republican criticism. He said he expected it to be completed this summer.



Flowers for a fighter: a woman greeting a guerrilla, right, from the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front in San Salvador. The rebel group is demobilising as part of the Salvadorean peace agreement

Egyptians held after bombing at Luxor

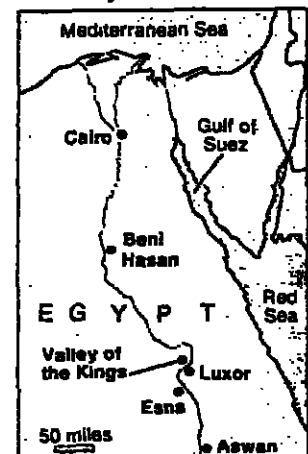
FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

EGYPT'S war against Muslim extremists has reached a new peak with the arrest of 500 suspected fundamentalists and the tightening of security around pharaonic sites after a bomb attack on the Karnak temple at Luxor.

The semi-official Al-Gom-houriyat reported yesterday that the Luxor bombing, during the spectacular son et lumière programme telling the story of ancient Thebes, was the first of its kind against a tourist site since the fundamentalists launched their campaign to introduce an Islamic state.

Al-Ahram, the Cairo daily, reported that two bombs had exploded on Wednesday night, and added that the police had also found petrol bombs and other explosive devices in ancient vases in the building's main hall.

The decision by the Muslim fanatics to switch their campaign to the country's antiquities has provoked grave concern in government circles, since Egypt's economy is heavily dependent on the tourist trade, which has picked up after the slump caused by the Gulf war. Be-



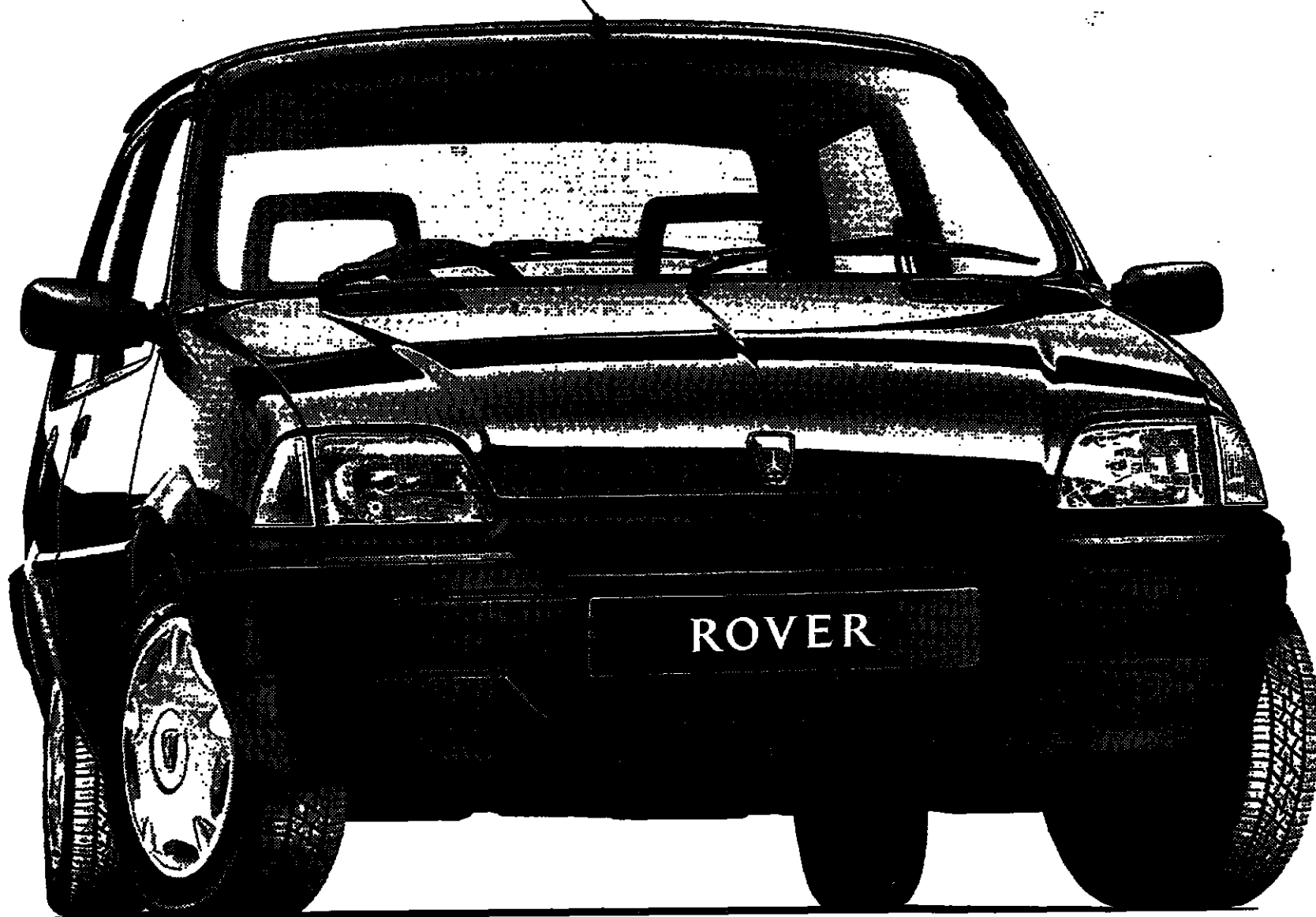
fore the attack, Luxor had been free of Muslim extremism. But less than 125 miles to the north, in the province of Assiut, 5,000 Egyptian police and troops equipped with armoured cars and armed Nile launches have all week been conducting their biggest swoop against the fundamentalists.

By yesterday, as the operation continued around an area where Coptic Christians and two policemen were murdered last weekend and 60 Christian-owned shops were destroyed, security sources said that at least 510 suspected members of Islamic gangs had been arrested.

Visitors to Upper Egypt said that tension was high, with several local curfews in force and armoured vehicles blocking entrances to villages believed to be Islamic strongholds. "The security forces seemed in a very determined mood," said a Cairo resident who returned from the area yesterday.

Ibrahim Nafie, Al-Ahram's editor and a close confidant of President Mubarak, wrote in a defiant front-page editorial: "We are not facing some aimless youths but organised, extensive underground forces. We have only one choice: to rip terrorism out by its roots and ensure the stability of the country for the next 20 to 30 years."

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Witness links police to massacre

[illegible]



Duty rotor: members of a Spanish special police unit clinging to a helicopter yesterday during exercises in preparation for security duties during the Olympic Games that begin in Barcelona next month

German women win final say on abortion

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

AFTER a 14-hour debate in the Bundestag, all German women have for the first time been given the final say in whether they want an abortion.

By a majority of 357 to 284, members voted early yesterday to give women that right, although the predominantly Roman Catholic state of Bavaria immediately announced that it would challenge the decision in the constitutional court on the ground that to deprive any human being of life contravenes the Basic Law.

The Bavarian move mirrors one made by Baden-Württemberg in 1975, when the court refused to accept a law that would have allowed abortion in cases of general predicament. The court said this contravened Article 2 of the Basic Law which guarantees "everyone shall have the

right to life and to inviolability of his person". Mathilde Berghofer-Weichner, the Bavarian justice minister, was preparing an appeal along those lines last night.

Nevertheless, the large Bundestag majority in favour of abortion is in line with public opinion. Recent polls showed that more than 70 per cent of men and women wanted to end the old West German system whereby all abortions were illegal unless approved on medical or social grounds by a panel of doctors.

However, the central statistical office says that anything between two and four times as many abortions are performed in the western part of the country as are reported to them, while clinics in The Netherlands and Britain have had regular custom from German women.

Supporters of reform argue

that "abortion tourism" inside Germany itself exists between states where operations are difficult to obtain and those where the medical parcels are more amenable. The office believes that figures for cases reported in eastern Germany, where abortions have been available on demand, are accurate. These have dipped since unification, because under the old communist regime abortion was a common means of birth control.

One part of the legislation also aims at making sure that pre-school places are available for all children by 1996 so that women are not put under such pressure to make a choice between a career and children. These clauses were inserted to win backing from the liberal Free Democrats as well as from the 30 Christian Democrats, led by Rita Süssmuth, the Bundestag president.

However, most Christian Democrats and the Bavarian Christian Social Union are still opposed to the whole concept of abortion and the Catholic church is determined to use its influence to try to overturn the new law.

Recorded birth and abortion figures			
	West Germany Births	West Germany Abortions	East Germany Births
1988	677,259	83,749	215,734
1989	681,537	75,297	198,922
1990 (1)	727,199	76,808	174,736
1991	721,251	74,571	107,021

(1) First full year of unification

Estonia decides on Russians

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN TALLINN

ESTONIA'S go to the polls tomorrow in a referendum to confirm the former Soviet republic's new new constitution. The vote is also expected to be an important pointer to the future status of the republic's 38 per cent Russian minority.

Only citizens of the pre-1940 Estonian republic and their descendants are allowed to vote in the referendum, which means that most of the Russians are excluded because they moved to Estonia under Soviet rule.

The first question, asking for approval of the draft constitution drawn up by a national assembly, is expected to pass overwhelmingly since all the Estonian parties support it. This constitution provides for a parliamentary government, with parliament elected by proportional representation

for a four-year term. The first elections will be held by the end of September.

To get into parliament, a party needs to take at least 5 per cent of the total vote. That is intended to prevent a recurrence of the parliamentary anarchy of the first Estonian republic, which led to repeated crises and an authoritarian coup in 1934.

The position of the prime minister will be strengthened and he will be given full powers to form his cabinet. Parliament will retain the right to pass a vote of no confidence in the government as well as in individual ministers. The president will be elected by parliament and will have mainly symbolic functions.

The second question in tomorrow's referendum asks whether resident non-citizens (in other words Russians) who

applied for citizenship before June 5 should be allowed to vote in the elections. The numbers involved are small, only a few thousand of the almost 600,000 Russian speakers in Estonia. However, the referendum is being taken as an indicator of whether in the long run most Estonians are prepared to give citizenship to most Russians, or whether they mean to exclude as many of them as possible. Right-wing forces have been demanding that non-citizens should be denied residence permits.

The Russian problem was highlighted this week by the decision of the Russian coordinating committee, made up of municipal, political and trade union leaders, to break off talks with representatives of the Estonian supreme council.

Farmers trap Mickey Mouse

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN PARIS

FRESH from a week of antics on the motorways, protesting French farmers vented their wrath on Mickey Mouse yesterday, blocking the roads leading to Euro Disneyland as an act of defiance against "American imperial might".

Gaggles of uncomprehending children wandered among queues of stationary cars and caravans as 200 tractors manoeuvred cavalry-style across the roads and fields around the theme park at Marne la Vallée, east of the capital. "We chose Euro Disneyland because it is a symbol. It is built on agricultural land. It also symbolises America. Without American pressure, the reform of the European agricultural policy could have been different," Louis Colas, of the mainstream farmers' union, told the television crews who sped to the park to witness what *Le Monde* called the "Chantier v Mickey".

Another spokesman railed at what he said was the American plot to enfeeble Europe. Disneyland was the obvious place to make the point while America's puppet leaders in Europe were obeying American orders to throw French farmers out of world markets, he said.

Another tractor warrior said: "The other day we blocked a motorway causing a 25 km (16-mile) traffic jam and the news did not even mention us." After the lunchtime news broadcasts, the tractors dispersed, allowing the holiday-makers, mainly tourists from other European countries, to enter the grounds with the train-borne visitors who had not been blocked by the farmers. A Dutch mother leaning out of her mobile home as they drove away said: "This morning was for Disney and now we cannot get in. Our little girl is heartbroken."

In a separate protest, 60 farmers overran the grounds of Jacques Delors' country home near Auxerre, south-east of Paris, spraying the area with defoliant.

Photograph, page 1
Editorial, page 15

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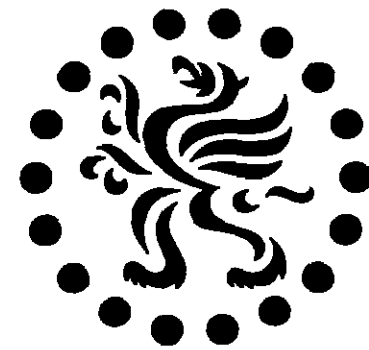
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NEW YORK NOTEBOOK by Ben Macintyre

Royal soap makers wait for last reel

A television company has paid an undisclosed but suitably vast sum for exclusive film rights to *Diana: Her True Story*, Andrew Morton's book about the troubled marriage of the Princess of Wales. NBC plans to turn the book into a four-part mini-series for television, to be broadcast next May. Nobody has any idea what will be in the final reel.

The film is described by the company as "the story of a dramatic conflict of a global personality — the story of her transformation from victim to victor". Shooting will probably be on location in Britain and Martin Poll, the producer, said yesterday: "The final episode will be written just before shooting begins. So much of the story

is changing." Mr Poll is already producing a two-hour television story entitled *The Royal Divorce*, a dramatization of the break-up of the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of York which will be shot at Pinewood Studios next month. CBS is also bringing out a television film on the Yorks' failed relationship.

New Yorkers recently have been tying themselves in knots pretending that the royal marriage troubles are of no interest to them, while talking about little else. *Diana: Her True Story* has sold more than half a million copies and bidding for the film rights is said to have been intense.

A share of the profits made from what television critics say will be the most

popular series of next year has been promised to the princess's charities.

On the opposite coast, after the truce between rival street gangs during the Los Angeles riots, gang leaders have decided to carry out a full-scale business merger, capitalising on the wave of sympathy they received from local people after their temporary decision to stop slaughtering each other.

A business plan uniting the black Crips and Bloods gangs, which for the past few years have tended to make war with each other, anticipates a turnover of £470,000 in the first year from jobs such as washing car windows at traffic lights. Los Angeles residents say the business is sure to be a success because few motor-

ists seem likely to refuse the chance for clean windows when the person making the offer is armed with a sub-machine gun.

While the poverty-stricken black gangs are turning to capitalism, some extremely well heeled white youths are embracing gang warfare. Sixty teenagers in the exclusive suburb of Malibu, where the most dangerous street altercation is likely to be between Madonna and Warren Beatty, have formed a new gang, MLO, which stands for Malibu Locals Only and is dedicated to beating up surfers from the California valleys who stray on to their beach. The gang has achieved only moderate success in defending its perfectly manicured turf.

Democrat make Bush wedding guest list

President Bush is expected to make a list of guests for his wedding to Barbara Bush. The list is expected to include many of the President's close friends and family members. The wedding is expected to take place in the White House.

The wedding is expected to be a private affair, with only a few guests invited. The President and Mrs. Bush are expected to have a small ceremony in the White House.

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Community braced for long battle over finance

FROM ROBIN OAKLEY IN LISBON

A LONG struggle over the European Community budget is inevitable during the British presidency after national leaders, as predicted, produced no agreement on figures in Lisbon yesterday.

John Major rejected the European Commission's "Delors II" package of proposals for future financing.

BUDGET DEBATE

telling the other heads of government that he saw no need for an increase in the "own-resources" limit.

Mr Major emphasised that he accepted the Maastricht treaty commitment to a cohesion fund to increase spending in the poorer countries of Greece, Portugal, Spain and the Irish Republic to help them to meet the convergence criteria needed before contemplation of a single currency. But he warned his fellow leaders pointedly in the context of the Danish referendum that it was taxpayers' money they were spending. The cohesion funds, he said, could come from present under-spending and cuts in the agriculture budget.

Jacques Delors has said that if member states block

his plan to increase the payments limit from 1.2 per cent of the Community gross national product to 1.37 per cent, then the EC will be able to afford only its reformed common agricultural policy and the cohesion fund. Even at that level, he said yesterday, the EC would be spending only 3 per cent of member states' money.

Mr Major said the Commission's proposals were difficult to reconcile with the required "overall prudence" in spending. There was no need to increase the spending limit because the EC was not spending up to the existing limit.

The British prime minister also reminded his colleagues that admission of the Efta applicants for membership would increase the resources available to the EC by a further 3 billion ecu (£2.1 billion). In a direct clash with M Delors, who wants a £2.5 billion increase in subsidies to European industry to help it to compete with Japan, Mr Major said he was concerned about such proposals. They were incompatible with the Maastricht treaty aims and picking winners was "not a sensible way of doing things".

Mr Major also said that better progress would have been made on the budget if finance ministers had been present, urging their attendance for such discussions in future. He called for agricultural spending to be scaled down further and for guidelines on such spending to be given added precision.

The European council agreed yesterday on the general "orientation" of future spending, but settled no precise figures. That will become one of the tasks of the British presidency before the Edinburgh summit in December.

Tristan Garel-Jones, the Foreign Office minister, and his officials will be in regular contact with the whips office at the House of Commons. The whips will be told the main items being discussed, the nature of the debate and any progress made.

The whips in turn will keep ministers and certain MPs informed about events. These would include Sir Peter Horden, the new chairman of the Conservative European affairs committee.

Downing Street sources said the exchange of information would not be as frantic during the Maastricht summit because no big changes to the treaty are expected to be announced. In addition, the Maastricht meeting last December took place not at the weekend but during the week, when MPs would have been at the Commons. Then the whips gave hourly reports to MPs about the treaty's progress. Cabinet ministers and their officials were on all-night alert to take in the latest news from Maastricht.

Treaty targeted

Lille: Two former French ministers, Philippe Seguin and Charles Pasqua of the neo-gaullist RPR, formally launched a campaign for a "no" vote in the planned referendum on the Maastricht treaty. (Reuters)

Rail reprimand

Brussels: The European Commission has accused Belgian railway chiefs of "cowardly claims" that it was behind a threat to Inter-Rail tickets used by thousands of young backpackers to tour Europe cheaply. (Reuters)

Polluter named

Amsterdam: Despite a green reputation, The Netherlands is the most polluted country in western Europe while Norway and Switzerland share the title of the cleanest, Dutch researchers at Groningen University said. (Reuters)

Italy upset

Rome: Italy has accused its EC partners of offering insufficient protection to pregnant women by failing to guarantee them the right to receive 80 per cent of their salary during the time they were off work. (Reuters)

Veto lifted

Istanbul: Greece has lifted its veto on Turkey getting its share of a European Community aid package for Mediterranean nations. Community and Turkish diplomats said here. The veto had delayed the aid for two years. (Reuters)



Game for a laugh: Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, the Danish foreign minister, arriving at yesterday's EC summit in Lisbon wearing a red and white scarf to show his support for his country's team in last night's European Championship football final in Gothenburg. Asked who would win, he linked Denmark's difficulties over the Maastricht treaty, rejected by voters in a referendum, with the game's outcome. "If we can't join

them, we'll beat them," he said with a grin. He and Poul Schlüter, the Danish prime minister, said they might take a pocket television into the talks to watch their team, the underdogs, take on the favourites.

Leaders urged to unify Europe

In a marked change of view, Brussels now favours a larger Community, George Brock writes from Lisbon

A RALLYING call for the expansion of the European Community came yesterday from the European Commission, which said in a report to the Community leaders at their summit in Lisbon that the EC had never been a "closed circle" and must play its part in unifying a continent no longer divided by the Iron Curtain.

The Commission has traditionally been suspicious that Britain and some other mem-

bers want to enlarge the Community quickly to dilute federalism. But the final version of the report from the 17 commissioners on the implications of opening negotiations with Scandinavian and alpine countries minimised reservations about accepting new states in the mid-1990s.

"Enlargement is a challenge which the Community cannot duck," it says.

Jacques Delors, the Commission president, last night

supported the majority of EC governments which want membership talks with European Free Trade Association (Efta) nations to be delayed until the Maastricht treaty has been ratified by at least 11 and ideally by all 12 of the present members.

The cautious text of yesterday's document, presented by Frans Andriessen, the external affairs commissioner, who is Dutch, bore the marks of sharp disagreements between him and M Delors, who has been under sustained fire over his centralist ambitions since Danish voters rejected the Maastricht treaty, largely because fears of fresh changes to the EC's constitution swayed them against it. M Delors is now eager to emphasise the EC's new concern not to intrude on the prerogatives of national

governments and to suppress any suggestion that the accession of new EC members will automatically trigger a new phase of tighter integration.

But Mr Andriessen has stuck to his more radical belief that the EC cannot even take on small, well-qualified states such as Austria and Sweden without reorganising its procedures. M Delors and a majority of commissioners removed this suggestion from the version of their support presented to the prime ministers yesterday. Sources have made clear that both M Delors and Mr Andriessen support both the expansion of majority voting and the lowering of the threshold of votes needed to win a decision. Neither proposal was mentioned yesterday.

The report concludes that the inclusion of Austria, Fin-

land, Switzerland and Sweden "should not pose major problems" but gives a warning that the EC should insist that these neutral states will have to sign up for the tortuous formula on future EC defence policy written into the Maastricht treaty. The Community, the commissioners say, should "remove all ambiguity or misunderstanding on this point".

At the moment, they say, neutral states, should "give specific and binding assurances on their political commitment and capacity to fulfil legal obligations". The Maastricht treaty tightens the coordination of national foreign policies and ultimately the development of "a common defence".

Yesterday's report also gives some insights into the Commission's hurried elaboration of what devolving some of the EC's central powers to lower levels might mean. The document makes clear that the Community must promote this doctrine of subsidiarity so that it is not prevented from exercising "leadership on the questions of vital importance".

A larger EC would need a "less vast and detailed" legislative programme, a clearer distinction between which bodies were responsible for decisions and which look after their implementation, and a more balanced distribution of work between Brussels, national governments and regions. This last idea incorporates a lurking threat to any British government which wants to recover powers from Brussels but which may not necessarily want to pass them on to local authorities.

The report says little in detail about wider enlargement to include the new democracies but does suggest that the EC's political links with Eastern Europe should be strengthened. It recommends a "European political area" for closer consultation between West and East.

Jubilant Danes make their goal summer revelry

FROM CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT IN COPENHAGEN

As their political leaders attended the European Community summit in Lisbon, jolly Danes back home prepared to stage the greatest festivity in their little country's history since its liberation from the Nazi occupation of the second world war by General Montgomery in 1945: the celebration of its participation in the finals of the European soccer championships in Gothenburg against Germany.

When the Danish soccer team won its surprise victory over the Dutch champions in the semi-finals earlier this week, normally reserved Copenhageners went amok. More than 50,000 jubilant Danes took to the streets, waving flags and brandishing banners. Close on three million of Denmark's five-million population followed the match, beating all television viewing records and last night's David and Goliath encounter with the German world champions looked like bringing the country to another total standstill. Denmark's halcyon days started in May, when Bille August, a leading Danish film director, unexpectedly won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes film festival for his film *The Best Intentions*, an account of the early life of the austere parents of Ingmar Bergman, the renowned Swedish film maker.

Then against all pollster predictions, Denmark voted defiantly against ratifying the Maastricht treaty on closer European political union in early June.

Keen travellers and good linguists as many Danes are, they still love to be hyggelig. Being hyggelig means chatting cosily with friends over coffee and cake or passing an evening in a snug bar. "Vi hygger os" (we make ourselves comfortable) is often an item on the agenda in Denmark, a sym-

bol of the way Danes like to see their country, "small and cosy".

Where else but in this fairy land would postmen don red jackets and Father Christmas hat for Yuletide deliveries, or tiny holiday homes boast all flagspikes flying the red-and-white national flag on birthdays and national holidays?

Visions of a United States of Europe fall on stony ground in Lutheran Denmark, whose people are pragmatic down to earth in the extreme. "It's a flat country surrounded by flat seas, one long-term foreign minister says. "Danes are farmers, fishermen and businessmen, and there's not much to be mystical about this."

The present upsurge of nationalism is even changing Denmark's traditionally negative stance on militarism. Long a pacifist, reluctant member of Nato, often criticised by its Western allies in cold war times for contributing only 2 per cent of GNP to military expenditure, Danes are now queuing up to join the country's 40,000-strong army, navy and air force, with four times the number of volunteers it requires applying to by national servicemen. Denmark is also enjoying its hottest summer in memory.

Regardless of the result against the Germans last night, Danes seemed set to continue their apparently endless midsummer revelries with a massive welcome feast planned in Copenhagen's Town Hall Square for the returning squad today.

Deeply rooted in the Danish soul is what the Danes call the *jantelaw* — the small-country rule that those who put on airs must be cut down to size, quirk in the country's national character which has received ample nourishment this month.

LISBON NOTEBOOK by George Brock

Lamont orders mint to ignore the eu

JUST as Britain looks well placed to land a prized European catch, the Euro-sceptical Chancellor of the Exchequer steps in to annoy Britain's partners.

London now appears to be within striking distance of being named as the site of the "operating arm" of the European central bank which will run any single currency in the next century. But a stern Norman Lamont has forbidden the Royal Mint to produce a ceremonial coin to mark the British EC presidency that starts next week.

Each presidency normally mints an ecu during its six months in the EC chair. During Britain's term from July to December, the mint will issue a special 50p piece, but no ecu. Officials would murmur only that Mr Lamont's reluctance to follow tradition was "political".

Until the closing phase of last year's Maastricht treaty talks induced a diplomatic discretion, Mr Lamont did not bother to hide his view that monetary union was a pipe dream unlikely ever to be realised.

Just as the newly reappointed Jacques Delors gears up to breathe some life into the horribly slippery idea of "subsidiarity", the Italian government has galloped to the rescue. Giuliano Amato, who has the thankless job of assembling the latest Italian governing coalition, has warned Brussels that he would like to name Carlo Ripa di Meana as his environment minister.

Signor Ripa di Meana, a courteous but anarchic Italian aristocrat, and M Delors are not friends. They are temperamental opposites, and divided over policy into the bargain.

Signor Ripa di Meana offended his austere Roman Catholic boss when they both starred in Brussels seven years ago by giving an explicitly detailed interview to an Italian magazine about his sexual preference for older women. M Delors was not amused.

More recently, he has been infuriated by Signor Ripa di Meana's habit of getting the EC Commission into hot wa-

ter with national governments by aggressive application of EC "eco-rules" — a drinking water, air pollution and the environmental impact of schemes such as Britain's planned M3 bypass at Twyford Down.

At second look, Signor Ripa di Meana's likely departure for Rome may not be so comforting for M Delors. Among the leading candidates to replace "Ripa" is Gianni De Michelis, the self-promoting Italian foreign minister. Signor De Michelis may not be *quid* the man Delors is seeking to man the new, non-intrusive, low-profile EC Commission.

But a last-minute detour by his motorcade led Felipe Gonzalez, the Spanish prime min-

ister, slip past him to enter the summit's conference site and save the day for protocol. As president, M Mitterrand is the only EC head of state present. Protocol requires that the other 11 leaders — more heads of government — should arrive before he does.

M Mitterrand's *monnaie* was about to swing into the grounds of the summit when someone realised Señor Gonzalez was behind the French president.

M Mitterrand's motorcade of eight vehicles and an ambulance quickly swerved away, looped around a car park, hovered for a while at Señor Gonzalez's side, then made its own entry.

Mitterrand won the race to be last

ister, slip past him to enter the summit's conference site and save the day for protocol. As president, M Mitterrand is the only EC head of state present. Protocol requires that the other 11 leaders — more heads of government — should arrive before he does.

M Mitterrand's *monnaie* was about to swing into the grounds of the summit when someone realised Señor Gonzalez was behind the French president.

48-hour limit affects UK most

BY LOUISE HIDALGO

EUROPE'S WORKING TIMES

	Max working week in hours (excl overtime)	Min holiday
UK	none	none
Belgium	42	4 weeks
Denmark	42	30 days
France	39	18 days
Germany	48	4 weeks
Greece	46	3 weeks
Ireland	48	4 weeks
Italy	40	25 days
Luxembourg	40	4 weeks
Holland	48	21 days
Portugal	42	21 days
Spain	40	30 days

Sources: Industrial Relations Services

ployers to give their workers a minimum number of days paid leave a year. In Ireland, this falls one week short of the four-week minimum proposed by the EC legislation.

For employees in five EC member states, the 48-hour working week will ostensibly mean no change from the

status quo, according to figures from the Industrial Relations Services, an independent research organisation. They already have that maximum. In Belgium, Luxembourg, Spain and France — in legislative terms — employees will find their current working week extended.

They do not integrate well in Belgium and hardly have any social life here except with other Eurocrats." The official said that his private life developed a Belgian sense of humour.

Another official believes the psychological problems are brought about because of the high level of stress associated with working in Brussels. "Most people are working far away from their homes, in a foreign country and are forced to speak a foreign language at work.

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They do not integrate well in Belgium and hardly have any social life here except with other Eurocrats." The official said that his private life developed a Belgian sense of humour.

Official — it's a mad, mad, mad, mad world

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN BRUSSELS

While European Community leaders in Lisbon are trying to figure out how to trim the wings of the Brussels bureaucracy, a report released in Brussels reveals that the Commission is driving its employees mad.

According to the report, nearly 40 per cent of former EC employees who are claiming invalidity pensions have had to retire because of psychological or psychiatric reasons. The report says that there are nearly 2,000 former EC employees who had to give up their jobs with the European institutions for health reasons and are claiming invalidity pensions. The most common complaint, affecting 37.5 per cent, is listed as psychological and psychiatric diseases. That ranks well above

the runner-up, rheumatism and related diseases, which caused 26 per cent to retire, and cardiovascular diseases, which affected 14 per cent.

One commission official, who asked not to be named, said he was not the least bit surprised by the findings, and always suspected he was working in a madhouse. "It is the constant pressure we are under," another official said. "Just look at how they're always poking fun at us in the British press."

Another official believes the psychological problems are brought about because of the high level of stress associated with working in Brussels. "Most people are working far away from their homes, in a foreign country and are forced to speak a foreign language at work.

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US sees need for force to free Sarajevo

By MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON
AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE Bush administration has privately abandoned hope of a ceasefire ever holding in what used to be Yugoslavia and now accepts that Sarajevo will only be relieved through multilateral military intervention organised by America.

President Bush yesterday summoned Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, James Baker, the Secretary of State, and other top aides to the White House to discuss the worsening situation in Bosnia. However, sources said they believed military action to protect relief efforts was some way off and the administration was still grappling with problems about how to

limit any such involvement. Mr Baker said before the meeting that existing United Nations resolutions called for the provision of humanitarian aid to Bosnia only after a ceasefire had come into effect. Officials said the administration was consulting intensively with allies and expected the next move to be a UN Security Council resolution authorising the use of force. This is a significant turnaround for an administration that only a month ago was resolutely opposed to military action.

Sources said the administration was struggling to devise plans for a military operation that would not suck US and other forces into a "quagmire". The Pentagon is still much more reluctant than the White House and State Department to get involved. America is adamant that other European nations would have to supply the ground forces, but even supplying transport planes and air power could lead to American involvement on a big scale. Military experts said Serbian mortars on the hills around Sarajevo would endanger the aircraft but be extremely hard to destroy. One source even spoke of having to destroy Serbian supply depots, power stations and other installations.

The administration's calculations are further complicated by political considerations in this presidential election year. While a swift surgical operation would undoubtedly boost Mr Bush's standing, a protracted involvement that placed American forces in harm's way and merely kept warring factions apart could easily do the opposite.

Amid mounting speculation that some form of military intervention, if only to deliver food and medical supplies to the besieged Bosnian capital was imminent, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, yesterday ordered an immediate halt to the shelling of Sarajevo and the withdrawal of anti-aircraft guns from around the city's airport.

In Sarajevo, there was scepticism about Mr Karadzic's promises. One resident reached by telephone said: "The Serbs agreed to all this on Thursday and the shelling since has been really really terrible. It has been hell, so how can we believe in this?"



Cheney: discussing how to break siege

Move to shore up the rouble

Moscow: Officials from the Commonwealth of Independent States reached partial agreement yesterday on measures to halt the slide in the rouble as individual republics prepare to introduce their own currencies (Mary Dejevsky writes).

Meeting in the Belorussian capital, Minsk, three prime ministers and seven deputy prime ministers initiated an agreement setting out principles for transacting payments and controlling the money supply within the commonwealth. The document is to be forwarded to next month's heads of state meeting.

Strike broken

Washington: President Bush signed legislation in the early hours yesterday to force an immediate end to the two-day strike that has shut down the whole of America's railway goods system and to block a passenger service strike.

Lease granted

Dhaka: After 18 years of legal wrangling, Delhi has granted Bangladesh a 999-year lease of the Tin Bigha corridor, the size of a football field, which links mainland Bangladesh with its Dahagram and Angarpota enclaves in India.

US aid cut

Washington: The United States House of Representatives has approved \$13.8 billion (£7.3 billion) in foreign aid for the next financial year. That is the lowest amount of American aid that has been voted since 1977.

Turkey decides

Istanbul: The Turkish parliament voted to extend by four months emergency rule in the largely Kurdish southeast. In the past six months, 728 people have been killed in the region, including 258 members of the security forces.

Europeans weigh up Bosnian options

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

MOMENTUM for taking military action to safeguard humanitarian aid to Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, increased significantly yesterday at a meeting of Western European Union officials.

Options discussed at the meeting in London included some form of naval embargo or presence in the Adriatic off Bosnia to reinforce United Nations sanctions. Immediate WEU military intervention was ruled out, however.

Possible military options suggested by independent military experts include:

□ Hercules transport aircraft flying at 100mph about 500ft over Sarajevo could drop food, water and medical supplies by parachute over a wide area. But unless there are guarantees from the Serbian militia, armed with anti-aircraft guns, to hold their fire, these slow-moving planes would be highly vulnerable. The alternative is to secure the airport with troops once there is a genuine ceasefire.

□ If fighting continues, paratroopers could be flown to Sarajevo airport in an opposed landing to enforce an airbridge for relief supplies. But this would require at least two divisions of about 25,000 soldiers.

□ Surgical strikes could be mounted against key Serbian positions. While this option would appear likely to incur fewer casualties, it would not be militarily effective. Bosnia is not like Iraq, where allied fighters were able to pick out tanks and artillery batteries using the best thermal imagery techniques and target marking. The Serbian militia, who roam the forests in groups at night armed with mortars, cannot be picked off. They also have batteries of 155mm artillery pieces which, although they are more easily targeted, can be hidden in the trees.

Colonel Michael Dewar, of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, said: "The only way to stop the shelling of Sarajevo is to create a cordon sanitaire around the city, pushing the Serbian militia out beyond 20km (12 miles). But for that you would need about 200,000 troops."

Any military intervention on a large scale would take up to two months to organise, by which time the people of Sarajevo could be dying of hunger in thousands. This is why the emphasis at the meeting of the WEU was on finding a way of launching a strictly humanitarian mission.



Foot soldier: a Serb fighter, engaged in an "ethnic cleansing" operation yesterday, kicks his way into a house in Divic, a Muslim village in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Serbs see ambitions sink in blood and duplicity

AROUND their charred bodies lay the loaves of bread they had been carrying in their helicopter. Exactly a year ago the two military pilots blasted out of the sky above Ljubljana, the Slovene capital, were the first victims of the war that has ripped Yugoslavia to shreds. Since then the toll has been horrendous: at least 20,000 dead, a refugee total as high as two million, with whole towns destroyed and villages pillaged and burnt.

Within ten days of those first shots, Slovenia, with no ethnic minorities to dog its course to independence, was out of the war. Today it is forgotten.

Militant Serbs in Croatia to the south began to go on the offensive. Croats hurled stones at Yugoslav tanks as they charged across their cities. In Knin, principal town of the Serb enclaves of Croatia, the mood was one of euphoric and martial triumphalism. To the south was greater Serbia: to the north, greater Zagreb.

Today they rue that time in Knin. A year later the tables have been turned. The Croats are no longer the underdogs. Serbs are in retreat, confused and utterly isolated from the

One year on in Yugoslavia's civil war, Tim Judah in Belgrade looks at its shifting focus and fortunes

world. The Serbs of Croatia, who were then 12 per cent of the population, were determined to stay in Yugoslavia. In fact this was nothing less than a plan for a greater Serbia, and Croats were ruthlessly driven from the Serb-held territories.

Until barely three months ago the plan was going well. United Nations peacekeepers were to come to the Serb enclaves to end the fighting there. Then the Serbian republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina was born. As Bosnian Muslims, Croats and Serbs talked about "cantonising" their republic, Serb militias began the task of "ethnically cleansing" areas that they claimed in Bosnia.

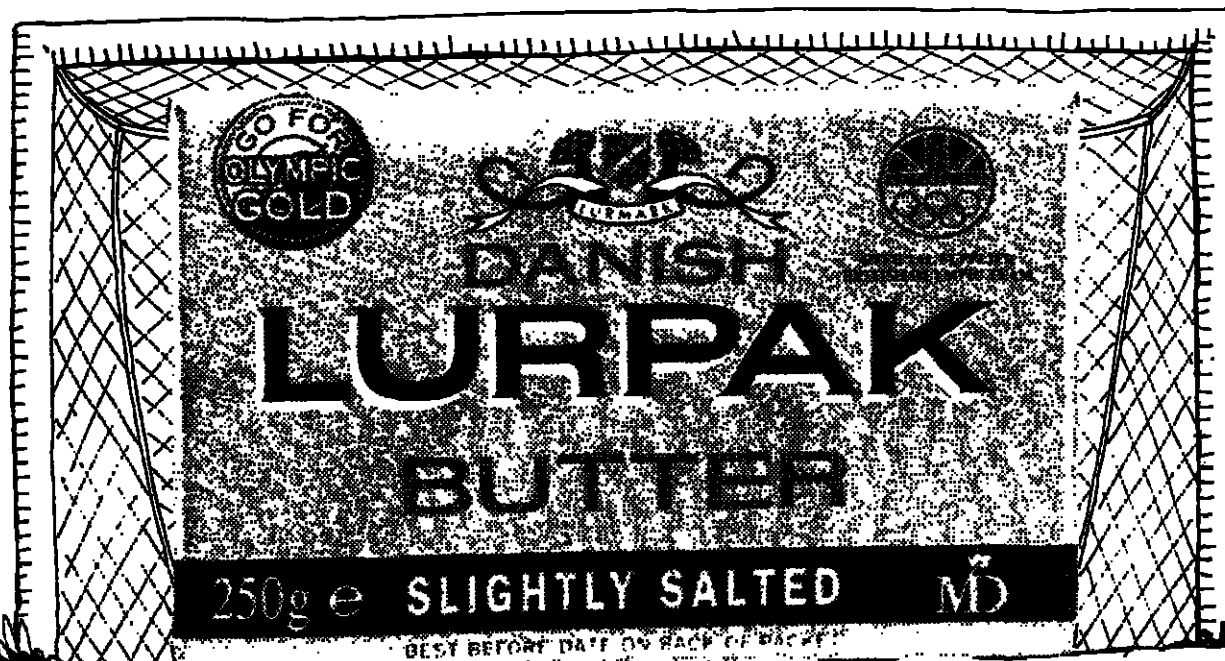
For the architects of greater Serbia it has been downhill ever since. Buoyed by successes in the field in Bosnia, Croatian forces can now contemplate all-out war to

drive the Serbs from their enclaves. Those Serbs outside Serbia who crowded as their forces pulverised Vukovar and ravaged the coast around Dubrovnik now face the prospect of Croatia's revenge. For the first time, Knin is being shelled and Serb houses are being dynamited in areas controlled by the Croat army.

After a year of war, nothing has done more to galvanise international public opinion against the Serbs than the merciless siege of Sarajevo. Slobodan Milosevic, the president of Serbia, promised that all Serbs would live in one state. Now hundreds of thousands of them are refugees and two million live in newly recognised "foreign" countries.

Now Mr Milosevic seems to be clutching at straws. With Serbs in retreat his latest suggestion seems, at face value, more harmless and eccentric than most: a confederation with Greece. Or is Serbia's most resilient politician cooking up something nastier than anything yet seen: a new call to save the fatherland by opening the Macedonian front and the partitioning of the hapless, unrecognised republic?

We think the Danes deserve a pat.



OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF THE DANISH NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM

Clifford Longley

Women priests show up the Synod's impotence

The Church of England suffers not a democratic deficit but a severe democratic deficit. The horrors of this excess are about to be demonstrated at the July General Synod at York, where the long trek to a decision on the issue of women priests reaches its penultimate stage. It is a notorious feature of the Anglican synodical structure that despite its immense scale over democratic detail, its overall effect is about as far from perfect democracy as elections to the Supreme Soviet under Brezhnev.

It is a good — though in Anglican terms unanswered — question whether the truth of a religious doctrine can ever be settled by head counting in an elected assembly. Certainly scientists would refuse to resolve disputes in science that way (though an overwhelming consensus might be taken as evidence).

The democratic arrangements for governing the Church of England exist as they are not primarily to assist in the search for truth, but because various sections of opinion do not entirely trust each other. What the synod founders created was a network of interlocking vetoes, so that no one group can push an advantage too far. But they did not build in safeguards enough. The "worst case" seems about to happen.

At York, the synod will split into five groups, each to have its own debate and then to vote. Four of the five debating bodies will be the upper and lower houses of the convocations of York and Canterbury, meaning the diocesan bishops and elected clergy each meeting separately in two groups from the north and south of England. The fifth is the house of laity.

If any of the convocation groups votes down the resolution for ordaining women, they will have to meet in the autumn to try again. If the house of laity votes it down, the resolution is dead until 1995. These decisions will all be taken by majority vote. But provided the house of laity votes yes next month, all five groups reconvene in the autumn to debate again and vote again.

Then a positive decision will need a two-thirds majority in each of three groups, the house of laity, the house of clergy (the two lower convocations combined) and the house of bishops (the diocesan bishops). The betting is it will be passed by the bishops and the clergy, but in the house of laity, all rests on the agonising of half dozen "don't know" who could go either way. But it strains credibility to describe the resulting decision as the "mind of the church", which is what this byzantine process is designed to discover — and blasphemous to call it "the mind of God", as some churchmen are inclined to do.

Members of the house of laity were elected by members of deanery synods — a deanery is a cluster of parishes — which in turn were elected by all church members on parish electoral rolls. Yet it is widely known that many candidates for deanery synod elections have to be conscripted into standing, and only by sheer coincidence, therefore, will opinion in deanery synods reflect opinion in the church as a whole. That is a foundation of quicksand.

But an even greater weakness is the two-thirds majority rule. It enables any body of opinion which can command two-thirds plus one to impose its views on another group. That is a destructive power in the hands of a majority, because a minority of perhaps nearly a third cannot be swept aside. It is well above the critical mass at which any party, like the Confederate states in America before the civil war, or the Nationalist minority in Northern Ireland, begins to feel its views may one day prevail through militancy. In a system of absolute dictatorship by majority, minorities must be small enough to be crushed. If they are not prepared to be ruthless, on the other hand, majorities should forbear to dictate. One third is a large enough proportion to render the whole virtually ungovernable.

When the General Synod last had to make a decision as potentially alienating to a sizable minority of objectors as this one, the issue was Anglican-Methodist unity in 1972. For the sake of unity, the synod decided not to proceed unless the vote in favour was 75 per cent. The proposal therefore fell. The suspicion must be that the reason such a "special majority" was not demanded this time is that the promoters of women priests knew they would never get it.

With the hurdle set at 66½ per cent, they may well win; they may indeed have right on their side and deserve to win. But for the church's sake, the benefits brought to it by women priests will have to be enormous if they are to compensate for the harm done by the way the decision was reached.

Anne McElvoy, Berlin correspondent, finds the secret police slipped up on her private life

Secrets of my Stasi file

The white envelope bearing the giveaway stamp of the authority responsible for East Germany's Stasi files arrived by a special courier, who handed it over with a knowing glance and a stiff demand for my signature in triplicate. So, this was it. Two and a half years after the collapse of East Germany, and after a campaign of badgering, pleading and grumbling at the catchily named "federal trustee for the files of the state security service of the former German Democratic Republic" for swift access, the truth was in my hand.

Getting hold of one's file has a certain cachet in Germany these days. While the initial shock of having phone conversations, unflattering habits and amorous encounters laconically detailed has thrown some Stasi victims into a state of embittered depression, the majority find the sheer energy invested in charting their little lives amusing, even edifying. Immortality guaranteed for a third of the population.

Eastern authors long considered past their prime in the West have been given a new lease of

life, writing about what other people wrote about their writing. A competition of "Mine's longer than yours" has broken out, with prominent Stasi subjects comparing the extent of their files. In the Paris Bar, where Berlin's literary gather to compare advances, the only revelation that causes a longer envious silence than a five-figure deal is a five-page Stasi file.

I too caught the curiosity bug. Partly, I admit, so as not to be left out of the conversation about the Stasi legacy that has dominated Eastern life in the past year, partly because as a Briton who studied and worked in the East before the fall of the Wall, I was something of a rarity, sure everyone agreed, to have been of great interest to Look, Listen and Grab Incorporated.

As the first foreigner to request access to her file, I was treated with exemplary caution by Joachim Gauck, the former

priest who administers the poisonous legacy of the Stasi's endeavours from a small east Berlin suite of offices. He gave a chilling lecture about what I should be prepared for. He had seen marriages broken, friends estranged, lives ruined by the revelation of double-dealing and betrayal. He paused, lowered his voice and said gently, "I have to tell you that as a foreigner, you may even find that you were recruited yourself without knowing it."

It was, apparently within the service's diabolical power to infiltrate false friends into the groups around target people with the sole intention of creaming from them information about others. This was the warning which activated the gremlin of suspicion. Had not S been a mine too curious when I described my first visit to a well-known dissident priest? And what about P, that quiet girl

who hung around the table when I went to stay with an old friend, the son of a politburo member at his elite university (an illegal and probably foolhardy exercise in those days). Then I started to brood on my closest friends. What if? Not M; oh, please not him, I would never have faith in human nature again if he turned out to be One of Them, but what if...

"Honoured Ms McElvoy," the letter begins, "the examination you requested has revealed that no information is kept on your person in the archives available to us." In other words, the cupboard was bare. My reactions swung between perverse disappointment and incomprehension. Surely someone must have cared about me enough to start a file? Just a little one would be better than nothing.

The archivist was sympathetic, apologetic even. "The Stasi

wasn't perfect," he said consolingly. He had spent half an hour recently comforting a distraught applicant who thought he had been a dangerous dissident only to discover that the regime had not been aware of his subversion. Now he is wondering how he can face his friends with the news.

There is, however, as the authority admits, something rather peculiar about my own case. Even if I was not watched or bugged, there should be some record of my visits to dissidents and writers in the files held on them. There is no mention of the times I was detained at the border (once for several hours), nor of the conversations I had with officials at the London embassy, including a dressing down over an article and a threat to withdraw my visa. If my minder in the foreign ministry was not a spy, then what were all of those awful

lunches for? Something may yet turn up from these official sources, diverted in the confusion to a different archive, but had there been lay informers on my case they would have been revealed by now by cross-reference at least.

The authorities have assured me they will keep hunting for my past, and the archivist is so fascinated by the idea of a Western correspondent without a file that he is adamant that they will unearth it somewhere. As it is, my friendships are intact, my faith in human nature is restored and I comfort myself that my file was just so hot that the Russians took it in the clear-out which followed the collapse of the East.

Albert Schweitzer once recommended that one should believe in all that is good in man but rely only upon the bad in him. He had no idea how disconcerting it is when it happens the other way round.

Anne McElvoy's book *The Saddled Cow: East Germany's Life and Legacy* is published by Faber & Faber.

Scientists' right to be wrong

Nigel Hawkes on the mood of caution among researchers

Where Edward Jenner alive today and contemplating the invention of vaccination, he would first have to square it with his local ethical committee. The same would be true of Howard Florey and Ernst Chain, rushing to test penicillin on dying men. The chances are that both experiments would be turned down.

Ethics, once dismissed (by a journalist) as "a county east of London", has now become a looming presence in science and medicine. No sooner is the ink dry on a paper announcing a new development than somebody — usually Lady Warnock — is asked to pronounce on its ethical implications.

Wise as she invariably is, I have the feeling that ethical concerns are beginning to get above themselves. Misplaced worries about public acceptability, combined with medical lethargy and an aversion to risk, are threatening the future of clinical medicine in Britain. This feeling was never stronger than at the launch this week of the British Medical Association's new paper on genetic technology.

In many ways this is a good book, well written and scientifically sound, but it is infected with a deadly negative emphasis. The authors give the impression that they would like to travel the country stamping out optimism wherever it dared to raise its tattered head. For a book intended to clear away "public anxieties" about genetic manipulation, it sets an extraordinary number of ethical

hairs running. For the BMA, it seems, there is no discovery in science that does not raise a new ethical problem.

Shall we have a national database of genetic information? No, that would be Big Brother. What about effective screening for genetic disease? No, that would further disadvantage those with genetic faults. Shall we give the green light to private enterprise, which has done more this century to cure disease than doctors have? No, genetic manipulation is far too sensitive to be left to the marketplace.

Seldom have I read so many gracefully written excuses for inaction. This ought to be a wonderfully exciting period in medicine, as all the discoveries in molecular biology which began in Britain finally achieve success in curing disease. Yet it is not here but in America that gene therapy is being pursued.

There have been at least 20 applications to the US Food and Drug Administration for approval for genetic therapy experiments. The first patients, two girls with a rare enzyme deficiency, are alive and well two years after the therapy began. The risks are no greater than for any other new treatment, but here we have yet to begin.

Dr Anne McLaren, a member of the BMA committee responsible for the book, says lack of money explains British dilatoriness. She is partly right, but there is also a lack of courage and enterprise, and an overdose of caution. Reading the book reminds me of a poem by Roy Campbell, on another subject:



Daring to save lives: Jenner's experiments would today fall foul of ethics committees

You praise the firm restraint with which they write — I'm with you there, of course. They use the snaffle and the curb all right. But where's the bloody horse?

Nor is the problem in genetic engineering alone. Ian Fentiman, a leading cancer specialist and a consultant surgeon at

Guy's Hospital, charges that opportunities to test new treatments in Britain "are beset by lethargy in doctors, fear in patients, attack from lawyers and ethicists and finally, a lack of funding from the NHS".

His complaint is that clinical trials, the only reliable way to improve treatments, are used far

too infrequently. Many doctors prefer to potter on, doing what they've always done even if it isn't curing their patients. "I know what's right for my patients," is the view Mr Fentiman attacks in an article in the current issue of *Science and Public Affairs*. Setting up trials big enough to

reach worthwhile conclusions is, of course, a time-consuming business, but says Mr Fentiman, that does not justify never asking patients to enter trials. In Britain only five per cent of patients with cancer are asked to take part in a trial, despite strong evidence that trials are the best way to improve therapy, and mounting evidence that individuals who enter trials fare better than those who do not. The situation is just as bad if not worse in America, where patients entering trials face huge and daunting consent forms.

I often receive letters or phone calls from parents of children with genetic diseases such as cystic fibrosis or muscular dystrophy, asking whether genetic therapy will come soon enough to save their children. There is no proper answer.

Nobody would argue that science should be entirely unconstrained by ethical considerations; but a balance must be struck. In the end, what matters is the conscience of the individual, not the time-wasting of ethical committees or the unspoken barriers to initiative.

Anyhow, it seems unlikely that ethical committees can restrain science when it is about to go wrong. Would any committee have prevented the development of chlorofluorocarbons, the chemicals that destroy the ozone layer? The difficulties are caused by effects which no committee can begin to guess.

Usually these effects are trivial by comparison with the benefits, and if they are not, as in the case of CFCs, the development is in due course abandoned. We cannot move forward unless we try, and trial necessarily involves error. By attempting to eliminate all risk of error, we throw away the chances of success.

It is hard to imagine the great scientists of the past responding tamely to the dictates of committees. They knew what they wanted to do, and did it. What we need is not more hand-wringing about the ethics of science, but a confident assertion that it provides solutions to human problems, as it always has. Ernest Chain, for one, gave short shrift to anybody who tried to hold him back. The millions saved by penicillin are the evidence that he was right.



...and moreover

PHILIP HOWARD

Before we are drowned in hype for the XXVth Summer Olympic Games, perhaps we should clear up the chronic semantic confusion about them.

1. The games are named after Mount Olympus, the reputed home of Zeus and the other gods in the north of Greece, because it was one of the highest mountains, often crowned with thunder and lightning. Today it is crowned with tourist litter.

Wrong. They are named after Olympia, a shrine to Zeus on the plain of Elis in the Peloponnese 300 miles south-west, possibly so named because he was taken to have broken the javelin record by throwing a thunderbolt there from Olympus.

2. The Olympic Games were founded to be an international festival of amateur athleticism, sportsmanship and the brotherhood of man.

Nonsense. They were a religious festival, and a truce was declared for the duration, perhaps because they originated as the funeral games of some hero. But the truce was often broken, and the main attraction of the religion was the feasting that came after.

3. Whence then come the lofty Olympian ideals of fair play? From Baron Pierre de Coubertin, a middle-aged French visionary who had been reading Tom Brown's School days and was imbued with the English public school ideals of cold baths, Christianity and cricket

to prevent little boys from killing each other. The ancient Greeks had no idea of fair play or giving suckers an even break. All-in-wrestlers in the event known as the pankration, were allowed to perform any kind of violence except biting and gouging. The fact that several of them were nicknamed "lion" indicates that they broke the rules. One was called "Mr Finger-Tips" for his trick of breaking his opponents' fingers.

4. At least they were amateur, classless and raceless.

Jockstrap liniment to that misapprehension too. The ancient Greeks had no notion of amateurism, and a winner at the Olympics got a state pension for life. The games were confined to free Greek males. The notion that Britons, Americans and other barbarians could compete in the Olympics would have seemed blasphemous nonsense.

5. The Olympics introduced the concept of athletics as a noble activity.

Horse feathers. They were always a cauldron of chauvinism, cheating and propaganda. Alcibiades was accused of nicking one of his opponent's horses. The Emperor Nero, having postponed the games so that he could compete, appeared with a ten-horse team, only to be thrown from his chariot. Although he failed to finish, even so, he was proclaimed victor by the judges, on the grounds that he would have won had he been able to complete the course.

6. They are run for the benefit of the athletes.

Nonsense. They have always been run for the benefit of the old men who organise them. In the ancient games these were the priests and rulers of Elis, who derived great political influence throughout Greece from their festival. The modern games are run by megalomaniac and dotty old men, often with dubious political backgrounds, who decide which cities shall stage the games and which companies shall pay billions of dollars to televise them. The television camera has replaced Zeus as the idol at the centre of the games, and it is not as good an idol as Zeus with his statue.

7. At least the ancient Greeks had no "sports" as idiotic as synchronised swimming, or the one that combines sliding and shooting?

Perhaps. But they had a clanking race in full armour carrying, and often dropping, shields, and a relay race with lighted torches as batons.

8. Has no good ever come out of the Olympics?

Not a lot. The Greek dating system. Some high art, from Pindar's sporting poems to Myron's lost but much copied "Discus-thrower". Some moments of high drama. The best way to reform them would be to get rid of the chauvinist league table of medals between nations, with flags and national anthems, and get back to the original celebration of the individual body at its peak.

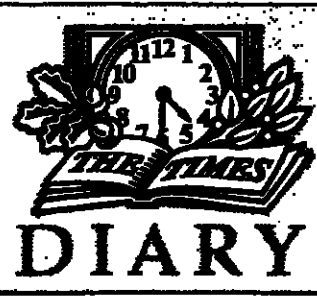
On the ball in Lisbon

FOR AT LEAST two delegations at the Lisbon summit yesterday, Maastricht and the re-election of Jacques Delors took a back seat. The Danish and German delegations had much more important things on their minds: namely the outcome of the European football championship final.

In an impressive show of European unity, despite the Danish referendum result, the Danish foreign minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen invited Kalus Kinkel, his German counterpart, to watch the first half of the match in his hotel room. The drinks reflected the delicacy of the occasion. "Both Danish and German lagers were served," said a Danish official.

When the whistle blew for half time, they travelled together to the official banquet at the Palacio Queluz, formerly the residence of the Portuguese royal family. Ellemann-Jensen went into dinner armed with a 2 in television, which was deftly placed among the wine glasses. Hearing of this, Chancellor Kohl ordered his aides to buy a similar gadget for himself at the dinner, coincidentally seated next to Ellemann-Jensen.

Kohl, who telephoned the German team coach before the match to wish him good luck, predicted an overwhelming German victory, but sensibly refused to sound triumphant. "Do not talk of revenge for Maastricht," said one of Kohl's aides. "It was a match between two friendly teams, from two friendly countries, who have managed to show some enthusiasm for football, which is more than you can say for the rest." Could he mean Graham Taylor's lacklustre English side? The Germans, diplomatic to the last, refused to expand.



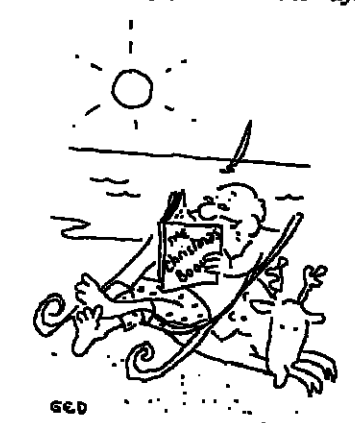
The Danes, whose success in the championship has catapulted them onto the international stage for the second time in a month, were enjoying the spotlight. A spokesman for the Danish delegation said: "Mr Ellemann-Jensen and Chancellor Kohl had heads bowed throughout most of the dinner. But they did discuss other subjects on which it was much easier to reach agreement." Whether Denmark should hold another referendum, perhaps?

One in the bush

ECONOMIC woes were put aside on Thursday night at Norman Lamont's 50th birthday party, one of the jolliest occasions at 11 Downing Street in many a long recession. Guests were entertained in style, with music and Spanish dancing. Towards the end of the night, some of the livelier guests turned on the Exchequer karaoke, with Petronella Wyatt, daughter of Lord Wyatt, proffering such a spirited rendition of Lili Marlene that the Chancellor asked for a repeat performance. She was only outdone by the nightingale singing in the garden. As guests scanned the trees looking for the songbird, Lamont admitted a deception. The nightingale was as illusory as those famous green shoots of recovery. A concealed

loudspeaker was conveying bird-song from a CD bought for the Chancellor by his wife Rosemary.

Christmas is in sight already. Take a bow Malcolm Hillier, whose publisher, Dorling Kindersley this week decided we would not be able to struggle through July without the knowledge that his Christmas Book is on the way.



Plus ça change

LOYAL SUBJECTS will be queuing round the block at the Barbican for the British premiere of the musical *Jubilee*. The risqué show depicts the royal family losing the affection of the nation. Princess Diana, unable to cope with her royal duties, longs for excitement, the Queen has fantasies of being taught the breaststroke by a Hollywood heartthrob called Mowgli, her bumbling consort does tricks with string, and the family is chided by a stuffed-shirt prime minister whom they affectionately refer to as "Fruite". Before royalists shout "treason", it should be explained that the libretto is not by Andrew Moron, but by Moss Hart, and the music by none other than Cole Porter. The work was written in 1935 and has not been performed in Britain

since. Ian Marshall Fisher who is reviving the show at the Barbican next month, says: "It's not a spiteful piece, but it is very funny. Cole Porter saw that the lives the royals lead behind the scenes and their public image are very different."

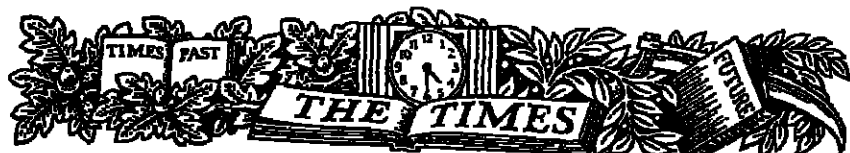
What has she lost?

THE BRITISH MUSEUM is this weekend putting the Elgin marbles under lock and key. Melina Mercouri is in town.

The former Greek minister of culture, in London ostensibly to open the "Aid for Cyprus" concert at Wembley, cannot resist a visit to inspect the marbles. Mercouri's eyes still light up at the mention of the 2,500-year-old Parthenon sculptures, which the British insist were legitimately obtained from the Turks by Lord Elgin early last century. Since Mercouri lost her job as minister of culture the issue has subsided. But Mercouri, encouraged by strong support over the years from *The Times*, is determined not to let it lapse.

Maria Onoufriou, who is organising her visit, says: "You have only got to bring the subject up and she is off. She had hoped to see John Major to discuss it, but his programme did not allow it."

● *Marital tiffs can happen in even the best regulated families — as we know. France has been agog for the last six years as rumours of discord in the marriage of its leading aristocratic couple, the Count and Countess of Paris, have leaked out. All now seems harmonious. The couple are to celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary with a mass conducted by Jacques Perrier, Bishop of Chartres, at the royal chapel in Dreux on July 4. Would it be churlish to point out that the celebration is a year late? They married on April 8, 1931.*



INSPECTING PEROT

Ross Perot has this week been forced on the defensive for the first time in his remarkable but undeclared campaign for the American presidency. He has had to answer questions, some of them damaging ones. Most have concerned his past use of private investigators — "the Inspector Perot affair" — against various opponents. All presidential candidates experience such close scrutiny by their opponents. Often, as in the case of Governor Bill Clinton, scrutiny has amounted to irrelevant gossip about the candidate's private life. Mr Perot can claim no such exemption.

While this week's exchanges on breakfast television and on *Larry King Live* (an American equivalent of the Wogan show) have admittedly been at a low level of abuse, the allegations against Mr Perot are not peripheral but central to his candidacy. Anybody wanting to occupy the White House has to show that he has the experience and qualities to handle the presidency. Mr Perot has yet to do this.

Mr Perot's biggest asset, which his opponents hope to turn into his biggest liability, is that he is a political unknown. He attracts disaffected voters because he is challenging a discredited Washington political establishment. Yet he worries those who do not know what to make of him.

The latest allegations fuel these fears. Mr Perot has been accused of employing private investigators to look into the business, political and personal dealings of President George Bush and his family. Mr Perot is also said to have used investigators to spy on the friends and associates of his own children. He has strongly denied these charges, arguing that they were part of a Republican dirty tricks campaign, though he has admitted using investigators three or four times in his life.

The White House has predictably made the most of the charges. Bob Martinez, Mr Bush's drug co-ordinator, has described Mr Perot as "a secretive computer salesman with a penchant for skulduggery." Vice-president Dan Quayle has awakened innate American

fears about government intrusion by wondering what Mr Perot would do with the Internal Revenue Service, the FBI and the CIA under his control. "Who would be investigated next?", he demands.

While Mr Perot may have done nothing illegal, the charges are damaging. They fit in with existing doubts about his suitability. His record suggests that he is a thin-skinned and ruthless businessman who rules his companies autocratically. He is impatient with dissent, sees conspiracies among opponents and pursues vendettas against those with whom he disagrees. These methods are alien to the world of politics which relies on persuasion and co-operation to reconcile diverse interests. As he said of himself in 1969: "What made me a success in business would make me a failure as a politician."

By temperament and behaviour, Mr Perot seems to have little regard for the restraints which are at the core of the American constitution. He has never shirked seeking influence and favours from Washington and has at times seemed to be developing a personal foreign policy over his obsessive search for American prisoners of war and others missing in action in the Vietnam war (of which there is no hard evidence). This has led him into a liking for covert and paramilitary operations rather than normal methods of diplomacy and government action.

Mr Perot has so far been able to brush aside such criticisms and rely on his populist anti-Washington appeal. The difference now is that the public is paying attention to what he says as well as to what he appears to represent, judging by calls to phone-in programmes and by the opinion polls. His previously spotless image has become marked. The proportion of voters regarding Mr Perot negatively has more than doubled in six weeks, and is still rising. That is not fatal, yet Mr Perot's strong reaction to the charges and his ability to hit back at Mr Bush show his resilience. But he still looks more like a lightning-rod of discontent with the American political system than its credible saviour.

ROUGH FISHING

Not every fisherman's tale (or fishery minister's whopper) should be swallowed whole. There is less in the current Anglo-French conflict in the English Channel than meets the fish-eye lens of the news camera. Despite John Gummer's excited reference yesterday to a millennium of Anglo-French hostility, this is no cod war. The affair, and periodic friction between the native fleet and assorted Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese and other boats, is significant only as an indication of the predicament facing all European fishing fleets: an acute shortage of fish and a surplus of boats.

Its survival now seriously at risk, every nation's fleet is competing all the more ruthlessly. Though some 80 per cent of the European Community's fishable seas are under immediate British jurisdiction, the regulation of international fishing appropriately lies at supranational level. Thus Britain has been given a quota, and if fishermen from France and elsewhere think it too high, as they do, they can go to their own ministry and have representations made at Brussels. Causing deliberate damage to British trawling gear is the lawless way of achieving what should be done properly, if at all, by international negotiation followed by effective regulation.

Such negotiation and regulation is a working model of subsidiarity as it ought to be. Brussels should do what only Brussels can do. It alone can make rules which fairly arbitrate between conflicting national interests, and it alone can see that they are observed without fear or favour.

With steady or expanding fish stocks, there is room at sea for everybody and regulation can be gentle. Since the sharp and so far unexplained fall in stocks of the late 1980s,

the Brussels fisheries commissioner, Manuel Marín, has been in trouble. There are only 19 EC fishery inspectors. They have no boats or planes and virtually no rights. They have to rely, for access to the grounds and catches they are supposed to supervise, on favours from national fishery authorities. If they find a discrepancy, putting it right requires the goodwill of those national authorities, which are subject to domestic political pressures.

One of the aims of the Maastricht treaty, urged by the British, was to give the enforcement of EC-wide regulations more EC teeth. Those countries which publicly agree rules, then cynically ignore them, could be forced into line alongside those, like Britain, which give their word and tend to act on it. Enforcement of the rules for fishing, including net sizes, zones and licences, will continue to be up to national governments. But the temptation to favour domestic industries will remain unless Brussels is seen both to be fair and to be tough in punishing, by fining if necessary, those who blatantly disobey or take the law into their own hands.

Falling fish populations are causing dismay to all the fishermen of Europe. The Sea Fish (Conservation) Bill, now before Parliament, will enable the British government to cut British sea fishing by 30 per cent or more. Reduction in catches may improve breeding rates, but there is no guarantee that the recent rapid recovery of the herring fisheries, as a result of international restraint, will be repeated. Meanwhile French and British fishermen will want to know that the pain is being shared equally. They must believe in fair play, which means having an umpire, which has to be Brussels. Or else, in desperation, they will start getting rough with one another. The first signs are there.

VIRGULE A MAASTRICHT

La langue de la République Française est le français, nous dit une addition à la Constitution cette semaine. Cet amendement a été ratifié avec d'autres changements pour obéir au traité de Maastricht et a été voté par les deux Chambres.

Nous, pauvres Anglo-Saxons paumés, n'avons jamais douté, depuis notre conquête par Guillaume I y a neuf siècles, que le français était la langue officielle de la France. Notre langage officiel pendant trois siècles a été le français, bien que le grand public ait continué à parler anglais. Plus de la moitié de notre vocabulaire vient du français. La langue du gouvernement, de l'administration, de l'Eglise et de «l'établissement» est le français. Tout comme les abstractions, les mots littéraires et culturels qui datent du temps où la littérature française dominait l'Europe. Notre langue est une salade composée dont la moitié des ingrédients vient de France. Si nous avions ici une constitution écrite, nous pourrions y annoncer que la langue de la Grande Bretagne est à moitié française... mal prononcée.

Mais les Anglais ont fait de toujours se débrouiller, et leur langue leur ressemble. Richelieu en 1635, établissant l'Académie Française, voulait «une équipe de grammairiens et de stylistes travaillant à créer une langue utilisable à l'échelon national». Bien des Académies furent ainsi créées. Dryden, Defoe, Swift voulurent en avoir une ici pour fixer définitivement notre langue. Mais cette idée a été rejetée ainsi qu'en Amérique. La langue est le signe de la vraie démocratie, toujours changeante, modifiée par chaque génération, au service de ceux qui l'utilisent mais jamais leur maître. C'est le symbole d'une nation, son identité et une arme fondamentale politisée.

La Californie et d'autres Etats d'Amérique

vont faire de l'anglais leur langue officielle, pour essayer de préserver leur identité parmi tant de groupes ethniques. Leur seul vrai lien est leur langue. Il n'existe pas d'Anglais qui ne parle pas anglais ou de Français qui ne parle pas français. Les citoyens peuvent être de toutes couleurs, de toutes religions, de toutes cultures, leur langue est leur lien: leur seule possession en commun. C'est un signe d'insécurité ou un manque de logique ou les deux si les Français pensent fixer leur langue en changeant simplement un article de leur Constitution.

Les jeunes continueront à parler un jargon américanisé pour être branchés, les gens de sciences utiliseront l'anglais car c'est la langue de l'atome, les quadragénaires dans le vent parleront de «cash-flow» et de «jobs» pour faire chic. Ce qui inquiète les Français plus que l'arrivée du français est peut-être que le monde aujourd'hui fait moins attention à la culture française, qui prédominait depuis les Grandes Invasions.

Le français survivra malgré EuroDisney, malgré Maastricht. C'est une des grandes langues du monde. Soixante-dix millions le parlent. C'est la langue officielle de trente nations. C'est une langue plus lucide et plus précise que le mélange anglais. Racine a su dépouiller la condition humaine avec deux mille mots. Shakespeare avec dix-huit mille. Charlemagne, le premier européen, a fait du français l'héritier du Latin de Rome et du Celta robuste des Gaulois. Villon, Voltaire, Victor Hugo, Yourcenar et tant d'autres ont enrichi le monde. Aucune loi n'est nécessaire pour protéger tant de trésors.

The Times est né de l'intérêt des Anglais au moment de la Révolution Française. Une Europe fédérale ne pourra jamais détruire la grandeur de la plus belle langue du monde. Ne craints rien, belle langue de France.

Call for a wider Alamein tribute

From the Marquess of Aberdeen and Temair and others

Sir, We British are often reluctant to commemorate our historic victories by land, sea or air, a reluctance epitomised in the memorable and momentous comment by the Duke of Wellington after Waterloo: "Nothing except a battle lost can be half as melancholy as a battle won". But this reluctance, like modesty, can be taken too far.

The victory of our land forces over Rommel in the autumn of 1942 in the western desert of Egypt was, with Stalingrad, the great milestone of World War II and should be commemorated with befitting resonance, gratitude and humility.

The fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Alamein falls in October this year. Although there are plans to make the annual ceremony at the Alamein war cemetery a special one, it is not hard to visualise the difficulties and the expense confronting veterans and their families, should they wish to make the journey in large numbers. Commonwealth veterans must also be considered.

Of even greater importance, however, is that a ceremony on Egyptian soil cannot rank as a national event of which this country as a whole can feel a part. Victory at Alamein was not achieved alone by the Eighth Army, the desert air force and the Mediterranean fleet of the Royal Navy: it was the war effort and the spirit of the whole nation and the empire which played a full part in those heart-lifting 12 days of October 1942.

A service of thanksgiving in St Paul's for what was the turning point in a struggle which up to then had been grim and often daunting is surely what our memories and our gratitude deserve.

Yours faithfully,

ABERDEEN, BOYD-CARPENTER, BRAMALL, BURNHAM, ION CALVOORESSI, CHALFONT,

CHARTERIS OF AMISFIELD, WINSTON CHURCHILL, RUPERT CLARKE, CLEDWYN OF PENRHOS, FREYBERG, ROLAND GIBBS, MICHAEL GOW, HARDING OF PETHERTON, STEPHEN HASTINGS, JOHN HENDERSON, ROY JENKINS, KILLEARN, OLGA MATLAND, CAROL MATHER, MOLLOY, ORR-LEWING, TWEEDSMUIR, WELLINGTON, WESTBURY, IAN WESTON SMITH,

The Old Rectory, Hinton Waldrist, Faringdon, Oxfordshire.

Elephants at zoo

From Mr Peter Hassell

Sir, You report (June 18) that each of the elephants at the London Zoo costs £15,000 a year to feed. My great-grandfather, Joseph Hassell, wrote the elephant in *Common Things and Elementary Science*:

The following was the daily fare of an elephant called Old Jack, which was the favourite of the children who visited the Zoological Gardens when the writer was a boy: One truss and a half of hay, 42 lbs. of turnips, a mash of 3 lbs. of boiled rice, a bushel of chaff, a bushel of bran, 10 lbs. of sea-biscuits, and 36 pails of water. Every evening a truss of straw was given him for a bed, and this he used to manage to eat before the morning.

Old Jack and his successors, it seems, finally ate the Zoological Society out of house and home.

Yours sincerely, PETER HASSELL, 28 Brown's Hill, Dartmouth, Devon.

From Sir Henry McDowell

Sir, Elephants from the London Zoo deserve at least a footnote in the history of economics. The late Baroness Wootton of Abinger, in the preface to a book on wages policy, wrote that on her first visit to the zoo she was given a fact sheet from which she learned that the elephant's earnings, from giving rides to children, were exactly equal to the sum she was to be paid for giving lectures to university students.

Yours sincerely, HENRY MCDOWELL, 2 Donne Court, Burbage Road, SE24.

Ulster's future

From Mr Alistair B. Cooke and others

Sir, Your leading article on Northern Ireland (June 15) notes that the local parties have put forward incompatible proposals for the future government of the province within the United Kingdom.

You suggest that the British government is now enlisting the help of the government in Dublin in order to exert pressure on the local parties. That misrepresents the position.

The Dublin government is involved in the quite separate strand of talks dealing with relations between the two parts of Ireland. Any involvement of the Dublin government in the talks on the way Northern Ireland should be administered would prove fatal to their chances of success. The result would be to strengthen the determination of the SDLP to persist with their proposals, which provide in effect for the joint administration of Northern Ireland by the two governments.

Those proposals must be abandoned. No one who supports the

Water abstraction and cost of meters

From Mr D. H. Braggins

Sir, It is encouraging to hear from the chairman of the National Rivers Authority, Lord Crickhowell (letter, June 24), that the NRA "will not hesitate to vary or revoke [water abstraction] licences if that is necessary in order to protect the environment": a praiseworthy policy, but is its spirit being implemented?

South West Water had a licence enabling them to abstract up to one million gallons daily from the River Axe, provided that the water was above a certain prescribed flow. During recent dry summers the flow has been inadequate to enable them to exercise the licence, and indeed the level has fallen to such an extent that some silting is taking place in the estuary and weed is proliferating.

SWW sought a drought order in 1991 to have the prescribed flow reduced. Their application was rejected after a public enquiry, although the NRA had not opposed it.

In November 1991 SWW applied again for a temporary licence to enable them to continue abstracting water from the River Axe with a reduced flow, in effect enabling them to continue taking water from the river under summer drought conditions. Last week, despite strong public objections and another dry summer with extremely low water levels, the NRA southwest region approved the licence.

It is difficult to reconcile these actions with Lord Crickhowell's statement.

Yours sincerely, DEREK BRAGGINS, Blue Ball, Payhembury, Nr Honiton, Devon, June 24.

From the Director General of Ofwat

Sir, Business Comment (June 19) endorses the doubts expressed by Mr John Bellak, Chairman of Severn Trent, over the economics of metering as a universal system of charging households for water, and suggests that I have advocated this universal system. That is not the case.

Paying for Water, the strategy which I set out last December, encourages optional metering at the customer's discretion (which Severn Trent pioneered). It also advocates selective metering by companies where installation costs are low and where delivered water costs are high. In a report which you published on the same day ("Disappointing Biffa stems water flow") Mr Bellak is quoted as contrasting the £107 million for the Carington reservoir in Derbyshire, which adds 10 per cent to Severn Trent's capacity, with a possible 10 per cent saving from universal metering, at a cost of £600 million (his figure). But this fails to look at the whole picture.

The UK government is in a good position to raise the issue, since our own civil service has set an example by raising recruitment upper age limits over recent years. Last year, the Irish civil service abolished age limits on recruitment of its officers. A priority for the UK presidency should be for EC institutions to abolish such limits. The private sector — where there is widespread prejudice against workers over 45 — should also be targeted.

France is the only European country with legislation banning upper age limits in recruitment advertisements. The French government is also actively promoting employment of older workers by exempting companies from employer's contributions when they recruit older unemployed workers.

Next year has been designated "European Year for Older People", which makes an excellent opportunity for concerted action to end age discrimination in employment.

Yours sincerely, SALLY GREENGROSS, Director, Age Concern England, Astral House, 1268 London Road, SW16.

Instead, British government should be as much subject to the democratic wishes of the people of Northern Ireland as it is in the case of England, Scotland or Wales.

Given that condition, and that the Alliance, SDLP, DUP and OUP parties find themselves incapable of forming a coherent view on the province's economic problems, the Conservative and Labour parties need to become actively involved in Northern Ireland. Otherwise, any revived Stormont assembly would become a sort of uncapped metropolitan council, which would simply accentuate the dependency culture through constant demands for ever more public spending and subsidy.

Full integration of Northern Ireland into the political and administrative life of the UK would signal to the terrorists that they would not be able to detach this part of the UK and all the residents of Northern Ireland would at last have a say as to who governs them.

Yours faithfully, ESMOND BIRNIE, Appt 22, Ashleigh Manor, Windsor Avenue, Belfast.

Weekend Money letters, page 28

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Deaf to the calls of the garden

From Mrs Ruth Dryden

Sir, Philip Howard ("Goodbye gardening", June 23) is not the only one to believe that gardening "is the purest of human pleasures, provided that there is somebody else to do the gardening". My husband was once told by a friend that "a man should never take on a garden bigger than his wife can manage".

Yours faithfully, RUTH DRYDEN, 19 Byron Road, Selsdon, Croydon, Surrey, June 23.

From Mr Mark Griffiths

Sir, Philip Howard's "Goodbye gardening" was an unlovely thing. God wot Can the multitude devoted to this pastime, profession and art be divided into the landed, with fleets of exploited labour, and the frustrated in search of "mindless" displacement activity? If so, the demographics of this country are not what I had believed.

Gardening ranks as our most popular (admissible) pursuit. The range and number of gardeners and gardens testify to the central role it plays in all our lives, as an innocent pleasure, as therapy, as design, as our heritage, as our most chosen environment, even as a model for our future husbandry of diminished wilderness.

Most cultures service a notion of Paradise. It is hardly surprising that poets should have engaged with the idea of the garden. Why accuse them of hypocrisy when some (for example, Pope — quite unable to lift a wheelbarrow, even in anger) have done more than a whole parliament of greens to teach us to "consult the genius of the place"?

Yours sincerely, MARK GRIFFITHS (Editor), The New Royal Horticultural Society Dictionary of Gardening, The Linnean Society of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1, June 23.

'Preposterous sticks'

From Mr D. A. Dewar

Sir, The most striking final obituary to the romantic history of tally sticks and the 700-year administration they reflected (report, photograph and Diary, June 23) was given by Charles Dickens in a speech on administrative reform at the Drury Lane theatre on June 27, 1855:

Agas ago a savage mode of keeping accounts on notched sticks was introduced into the Court of Exchequer, and the accounts were kept much as Robinson Crusoe kept his calendar on the desert island... Official routine inclined to these notched sticks as if they were pillars of the Constitution...

In the reign of George III, an inquiry was made by some revolutionary spirit whether pens, ink and paper, slates and pencils being in existence, this obstinate adherence to an obsolete custom ought to be continued, and whether a change ought not to be effected. All the red tape in the country grew redder at the bare mention of this bold and original conception, and it took till 1826 to get these sticks abolished.

In 1834 it was found that there was a considerable accumulation of them; and the question then arose, what was to be done with such worn-out, worm-eaten, rotten old bits of wood? It came to pass that they were burnt in a stove in the House of Lords. The stove, overgrown with these preposterous sticks, set fire to the panelling; the panelling set fire to the House of Lords; the House of Lords set fire to the House of Commons; and the two Houses were reduced to ashes.

"Preposterous sticks" maybe, but now sold for £17,600 at Sotheby's.

Yours faithfully, DAVID DEWAR (Assistant Auditor General), National Audit Office, Buckingham Palace Road, Victoria, SW1, June 24.

A Titian question

From Dom Alberic Stapoole

Sir, I should like to know a little more about Titian's *Venus and Adonis*, sold to the Getty Museum for something like £7.6 million (report and photograph, June 20).

Titian painted a version in 1553 for Philip II of Spain in his last period, when the king virtually monopolised his time and gift. That one is now in the Prado.

Another, painted by Titian the following year, is in our National Gallery. These are the same but differ from the Getty picture, e.g., in that Adonis has an entirely bare right shoulder.

Yours faithfully, A. J. STAPOOLE, Ampleforth Abbey, York, June 20.

Signing for posterity

From Miss Natasha Dewar

Sir, I was wondering whether your readers could suggest something original to take into school on my last day, to have signed by all my friends.

Among younger children it is usual these days to have an old school shirt signed but, being a sixth former and no longer wearing uniform this does not seem appropriate. My mother's idea of taking a hymn book which was the fashion thirty years ago now seems to me a bit naïf!

Yours sincerely, N. DEWAR, 22 Parkhurst Road, Bexley, Kent, June 23.

OBITUARIES

SIR JAMES STIRLING

Sir James Stirling, architect and RIBA gold medalist, died of a heart attack on June 25 aged 66 after complications arising from a hernia operation. He was born in Glasgow in 1926.

JAMES Stirling was that rare creature, a British architect of world renown. Like many men of genius he was for much of his life a prophet with little honour in his own land. An impassioned exponent of Modernism whose later works showed intriguing glimpses of classical revivalism, his buildings managed to attract admiration and hostility in equal measure.

Abroad, both architects and the lay public found it difficult to comprehend the often fierce antagonism towards his buildings in Britain. His work for the city of Stuttgart was received not only with critical acclaim but with public adulation (apart from the great German engineer Frei Otto, who likened his designs for the city's gallery to those for Auschwitz). His reputation was equally high on the other side of the Atlantic. The *Washington Star* devoted a leading article in praise of his output when he received the 1981 Pritzker prize.

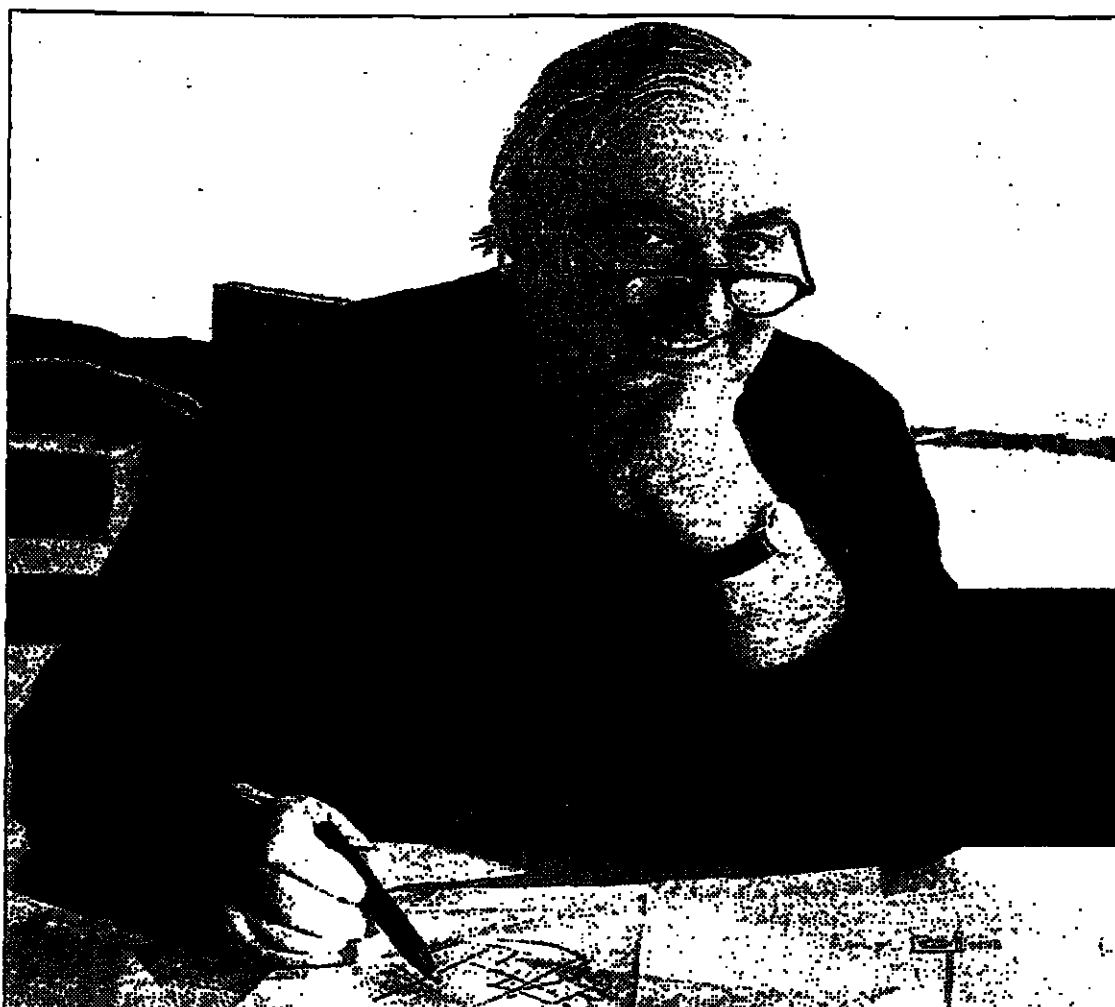
Although Stirling's completed oeuvre is small, his projects were legion. In recent years he was on the shortlist of numerous national and international competitions, in England notably for the National Gallery extension, Paenestor Square, Bracken House, Glyndebourne and the new Channel 4 building; abroad for the Los Angeles Philharmonic Hall, the Bibliothèque de France in Paris and the Kyoto concert hall in Japan.

Stirling's international reputation rests above all on two works, the engineering faculty at Leicester University and the Stuttgart Staatsgalerie. He was an influential teacher, as lecturer and professor at the Architectural Association in London and also at Yale and at Düsseldorf. His intellect, as much as his large frame and girth, earned him the nickname of Big Jim Stirling. He was typical of a certain type of Briton, querulous, individual, idiosyncratic, unwilling to be pinned to any group, his own man.

Though knighted only 12 days before his death, Stirling steadily collected the world's major architectural awards, the Alvar Aalto medal in 1977, the RIBA gold medal in 1980, the American Pritzker prize in 1981, the Chicago Architecture award in 1985, the Thomas Jefferson medal in 1986, the Hugo Harling prize in 1988 and the Praemium Imperiale award from Japan in 1990. He was an honorary member of academies in Berlin and Florence as well as of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters.

Born in Glasgow, Stirling was essentially a Liverpudlian. His father was a Scottish marine engineer and the family moved to Liverpool when Stirling was a year old. Thus the visual backdrop of his childhood was Liverpool Docks, where he used to visit his father, then a dramatic vista of masts, "fourteen miles of forest" as Herman Melville once wrote. His visual taste was formed by his perusal of his father's meticulous coloured drawings of ships' machinery.

He was educated at Quarry Bank



High School, where he failed his school certificate and then went, briefly, to Liverpool College of Art. When war came he was, by virtue of his Scottish connection, commissioned in the Black Watch. But the inanities of regimental life appalled his sensitive (and at the same time volcanic) nature. Dining-in nights, with their indigestible mix of deafening band music and good food, wine and conversation, he found particularly intolerable. Another hate was the twice weekly inspections by the colonel with his crumblers, lifting their kilts with his crumblers to make sure that no one was "cheating" and wearing underpants.

When he could stand no more, Stirling volunteered for the Parachute Regiment and took part in the Sixth Airborne Division's drop behind German coastal defences on the night before D-Day. His war was not to be a long one. Among the first to engage the enemy, he was also among the first casualties, wounded by a blast of a tank shell 36 hours after landing. He was evacuated to Britain, but as his injury was mainly concussion he was soon back in Normandy. He was then injured again, hit in the shoulder by a burst of machine gun fire during the break-out from Caen. His war was now definitely over and he continued to suffer from some paralysis in his left arm for the rest of his life.

In 1945 he began at Liverpool, then Britain's largest university school of architecture. "There was furious debate as to the validity of the modern movement," he later recalled, adding that the book which most influenced him after Colin

Rowe's *Towards a New Architecture* was Sax and Wittkower's inspiring pictorial survey *British Art and the Mediterranean*.

After a spell as an assistant with Lyons, Israel and Ellis, he set up in practice in partnership with the Glaswegian James Gowan in 1956. It was to be a fertile association, "Big Jim" and "Wee Willie" striking the creative sparks from each other that ensured whatever they did was an assault on stock notions of architectural propriety.

Their first substantial work was the Le Corbusier-inspired flats at Ham Common in 1957. This immediately drew the fire of the architectural establishment. With exposed concrete floors and generally brutalist demeanour, the flats struck observers as inappropriate for an otherwise Georgian and sylvan Surrey village. "They look like an ideological theorem imposed on the inhabitants," observed Ian Nairn in the *Surrey* volume of Nairn and Pevsner's *The Buildings of England*. "There is probably more protest than is needed for the simple provision of a few flats." In retrospect, with the brutalist features softened by weathering, the judgment seems harsh and the flats an unassuming enough addition to the Common. But the impression had been given and a "bloody minded" (Nairn's words) label was stuck to Stirling for the rest of his working life.

Stirling first won international acclaim with the much larger engineering building at Leicester university (1959-64), a commission awarded on the recommendation of the architect Sir Leslie Martin. This building represented a complete

break with the vapid Festival of Britain idiom that had come to dominate British architecture. Here were powerfully expressed, hard-edged, sculptural forms largely inspired by the Russian constructivists. Unlike the Ham flats, the block was subject to wide scrutiny, especially the traits of the "new brutalism", source of so much public dislike of Stirling's architectural generation.

Following the acrimonious break-up of his partnership with Gowan, Stirling was awarded the commission for a new history faculty library in Cambridge. Built on an L-shaped plan, enclosing a fan-shaped cascade of glass, it was strongly attacked by teachers and students alike for leaking in winter and overheating in summer, criticism that dogged Stirling's buildings all his career. Demolition was seriously considered but eventually rejected by the university senate in the 1980s.

His other university commission at this time was the Flory building for Queen's college, Oxford, again demonstrating a hard northern industrial aesthetic and attracting criticism for its fierce dominance over a virgin riverside site. Some detected in it, however, a more delicate texture of tiles and glass rather than harsh concrete; perhaps the beginning of a less ideological, more mature Stirling.

In 1971 Stirling was joined in partnership by Michael Wilford at a time when, save for a few exceptional buildings such as his Olivetti Training School at Haslemere, clients seemed to have deserted him. His individuality now asserted itself in a new way. He was the first

notable Modernist to attack modern architecture for being boring, sterile, arrogant and banal. He claimed it subverted the richness of life. The great exhibition on neo-classical art held at the Royal Academy in 1972 was an intense influence and he moved towards a more classical style of bold and simple geometric volumes.

Stirling had immense talent and fertility as a draftsman, producing drawings that were works of art in themselves. In a few carefully chosen elevations and perspectives he could convey every aspect of a design and its setting. Not since the end of beaux-arts classicism had any architect shown such a sophisticated ability to handle complicated axes and interweave geometric shapes.

His unquestioned masterpiece in this vein is the Stuttgart Staatsgalerie. In making the public route through the building into a processional way, Stirling awakened a sense of ritual in architecture that harked back to ancient Greek temple sites. Here was a building of elemental simplicity, carefully chosen materials making powerful use of colour.

The gallery did not merely appeal to his peers in the profession, but was a resounding success with the public. Attracting well over a million visitors in its first year, it pushed Stuttgart from 50th to first place in the West German gallery visitor ratings. Stirling further developed the colour elements of Stuttgart in the startling livery of the Braun headquarters in Berlin.

His best-known recent building in Britain is the Clore gallery, added to the Tate to house the Turner collection, again using colour and geometry to express the building's relationship to its setting. This time Stirling had to suffer the criticism of the profession but the accolade of the public. He was perhaps unfortunate as a result not to win the competition for the National Gallery extension, which went to Robert Venturi.

The accolades Stirling received abroad were a stark contrast with the brickbats at home. The Prince of Wales likened his design for Number One Poultry (on the Mappin and Webb site) to a "Thirties wireless set". At one point Stirling even spoke of breaking with Britain altogether, despite his place in the new trinity of British architecture (with Sir Richard Rogers and Sir Norman Foster).

Fond of food and drink and always struggling with his weight, Stirling was warned that a hernia operation could prove dangerous. It proved fatal. He was still at the height of his powers, with years of active designing potentially ahead of him. His most recent completed building was an elegant bookshop to complement the numerous temples of architecture, ancient and modern, at the Venice Biennale. Current projects include a masterplan for the Temasek polytechnic in Singapore and the revival of a 1985 project for a passenger interchange at Bilbao in northern Spain.

He married in 1966 Mary, one of the two daughters of the modernist architectural and wine writer P. Morton Shand, thus becoming the brother-in-law of Sir Geoffrey Howe. She survives him with their son and two daughters.

APPRECIATIONS

Leonard Mosley



IT WAS during his time as a war correspondent in the Middle East that Leonard Mosley (obituary, June 22), picked up some information about *Operation Condor*, the espionage mission of the two Germans, Johannes Eppler and Hans Gerd Sandstetter, who crossed the Libyan desert to Egypt and were arrested in Cairo in July 1942. The book he wrote about it, *The Cat and the Mice* (1958), remains the best full-length account of the episode, one on which a number of other writers drew, inaccurate though it is in places and embroidered in others.

In particular, Hekmath Fathmy, the belly dancer, whom Mosley often saw, captured his imagination. "Make no mistake," he wrote, "Hekmath Fathmy was something special." As a dancer, that was, but he could not resist making her in his book also a spy who drugged her besotted English admirer Major "Smith" so that Eppler could read the dispatches he was carrying from

GHQ to the Eighth Army. The court of enquiry set up after the affair would have let her off with a warning for her actually quite modest part in it but the British Ambassador, Sir Miles Lampson, later Lord Killarney, seems to have viewed her as Mosley did. He protested that she should not be freed "to consort with erotic young British officers".

Mosley's book was reissued in 1960 as *Fashole in Cairo*, after the even more embroidered film of the same name.

Hugh Dovey

Vera Russell

YOUR admirable obituary of Vera Russell (June 17) demonstrated that she was both a remarkable and a difficult woman. Had she not been difficult, she would not have been so remarkable.

A perfectionist in everything, she demanded the highest, sometimes even impossible, standards from both her friends and her co-workers in the multifarious theatrical, literary, journalistic and artistic activities which filled her life almost to the time of her death. She was equally exacting of herself.

When she entertained in

her charming little house, hung with pictures by such close friends as David Hockney and Matthew Smith, she ensured that the guests were still chosen with the utmost care; that the table was still laid to perfection; that the food, however simple, was still delicious; that the conversation was still strenuously intelligent.

To live up to her standards was not easy. But to take part in the game of life with such an accomplished player meant that one's own performance was always raised. She never expected less than the best from one, and somehow one usually produced it.

Francis King

Rex McCandless

THE obituary of Rex McCandless (June 16) was complete in every respect. Rex was a motorcycleist of some repute and his late brother Cromie a gifted road racer and TT winner.

Rex was never far from racing motorcycles and motorcyclists who were the subject of his acid comment on design and often on ability. His comments on the handling of the 125cc twins of Honda when they first arrived in the Isle of Man in

1959 echoed back to Japan and racing motorcycle chassis construction, world-wide, benefited to the advantage of every motorcycle sportsman.

Uncompromising, tough and even in retirement capable of sketching design suggestions for TT race machines that stopped rear tyre breakaway under power, Rex McCandless was held in high regard by the TT Riders Association who honoured him with a top table seat at their annual luncheon last October.

Allan Robinson
Hon Secretary
TT Riders Association

Thomas Hume

YOUR excellent obituary of Thomas Hume (June 23) rightly concentrates on his successful completion of two major museums in Liverpool and London but may I add a personal note from my experience as his young assistant at Aylesbury Museum thirty-five years ago (and subsequently

as a friend) and recollect his good humour and unfailing kindness to staff which extended to allowing me to sleep in a cupboard in the museum whilst searching for digs. I was fortunate to begin my museum career under his guidance and enjoy some early halcyon days.

Arnold Wilson
(Former director of Bristol Art Gallery)

SIR RICHARD FRANCIS

Sir Richard Francis, director general of the British Council from July 1987 and former director of news and current affairs for the BBC, died in hospital yesterday aged 58. He was born on March 10, 1934.

DICK Francis will justly be given much credit for the way he remodelled the British Council over the past five years, improving its work, its status and its budget. But he will probably be best remembered by the public for his time at the BBC, where he was in charge of news and current affairs and then managing director of radio for four years before his resignation in 1986.

Francis was a classic example of the BBC high flyer whose career was suddenly grounded for good in one of the numerous blood-lettings which characterised life in the Corporation in the 1970s and 1980s. When Alasdair Milne was forced by the BBC governors to resign as director general in 1986, Francis, who had had many a tussle with Milne, thought that he was a leading candidate for the job. A considerable number of Francis's supporters and admirers believed likewise. Instead, he was told by the governors that not only would he not be considered, but that he could expect no further preferment. Shocked and incredulous, Francis resigned on the spot.

Dick Francis was a true Yorkshireman, with a strain of Yorkshire pugnacity. He was born in Harrogate and went to Uppingham, where he showed plenty of self-confidence and was a good actor, specialising in comedy roles. He managed only a third at University College, Oxford, but continued to act with OUDS. Called up for National Service in the Royal Artillery, he was immediately identified as officer material and commissioned in 1957.

After the Army he entered the BBC as a general trainee (Corporation code in those days for a "flyer"). Following the expected pattern of such privileged entrants, he distinguished himself first as a radio



features producer. He was switched to television, where he was seconded to light entertainment, which he did not enjoy. He was shunted off to drama, then to afternoon programmes and finally current affairs, which proved to be his forte.

As a producer on *Panorama*, Dick Francis was soon entrusted with many major assignments, especially wars, which he covered in every continent. His productions of programmes on the Congo and Vietnam were particularly admired. By 1965 he was assistant editor of *Panorama* from which he moved on to head *Twenty Four Hours* and to

become projects editor, current affairs. In 1968 and 1969 he was in charge of the European Broadcasting Union coverage of the American elections and of the first Apollo launch.

In 1972, when he was assistant head of current affairs, he surprised many of his colleagues by accepting what was then considered the backwater appointment of controller, BBC Northern Ireland. When he assumed charge of the BBC's operations in the Province the following year, the "troubles" were at their height. He established the principle, jealously preserved by his successors

in Belfast, that no programme concerning Northern Ireland should get beyond the planning stage at the BBC without full consultation with the controller there.

Because of his successful incumbency in what had become an internationally-known notorious trouble spot for broadcasters, Dick Francis now came to be regarded as the leading expert on such situations, and was much in demand as a speaker at conferences. His lecture "Broadcasting to a Community in Conflict", delivered at Chatham House in February 1977, is still thought of as a classic of its kind. In Northern Ireland itself, he is best remembered for having launched BBC Radio Ulster.

After Northern Ireland he became a member of the BBC board of management, as director of news and current affairs. His skill as a lecturer made him even more in demand in this new role. Two of his most memorable orations were "Television - The Evil Eye?" at the Royal Television Society in 1981 and "What Price Free Speech?", delivered to The Law Society the following year.

Although he was a friendly and amiable man, with a considerable sense of humour, Dick Francis stood out as a conspicuously sober-sided, conservative and restrained figure among a BBC board of management dominated at that time by the baggage-playing Alasdair Milne, the perennially jocular Bill Cotton, and the rumbustious Aubrey Singer. "Plodding" was a description often unfairly applied to him by his critics, although one of his BBC colleagues took a different view and referred to him as "the last of the cigar-chomping Concorde travellers". Francis was used to criticism and he also enjoyed the privileges of management.

His appointment in 1982 as managing director of BBC Radio was received with equal measure of rejoicing and dismay by the radio staff some of whom saw him as unadventurous, while others thought that his was exactly the steady hand at the helm needed at

that moment. The latter description, when he heard of it, gave him particular pleasure, because his abiding passion was ocean racing, at which he scored many successes. Also, the achievement of managing director status put him firmly in line for the highest BBC office, though this was not to be.

On the day in 1986 when he left Broadcasting House for the last time, deeply distressed after his resignation, a colleague said to him prophetically: "Never mind, Dick. If you can't be DG of this lot, there are other things to be DG of." Within a year he was director general of the British Council. It was a surprise appointment in many ways: the council had tended to draw either from academia or from areas of service less public than the BBC.

His first task was to restore reasonable relations with the Foreign Office, which had become decidedly sour by the time of Francis's arrival, one of the reasons why the council was distinctly short of cash. Francis made the peace and he got the money. During his period with the council his budget increased by 20%. His colleagues were at first taken aback by his sometimes abrasive manner and the way he treated those with whom he did not agree. Initially it was put down to the BBC years but later understood as being the carapace of a basically shy man.

Francis was determined to preserve and even extend the Council's overseas network and to fight for the role of English as a world language. He was early to spot the opportunities presented by the changes in Eastern Europe and to make sure his team was suitably strong there.

At home he supervised the move of half of his staff to Manchester, which was much resented in some quarters, and it is a sadness that he did not live to see the opening of the new offices there next month.

Last year he was appointed one of the 16 members of the newspaper watchdog committee, the Press Complaints Commission.

Dick Francis was married twice and had two sons from each marriage.

June 27 ON THIS DAY 1791



During the opening stages of the Revolution Louis XVI had a large measure of popularity, one maintained even after the capture at Varennes (on this day, July 1, 1991). The fall of the war against Austria was attributed to him; royalty was abolished in September and on January 21 1793 he was executed (on this day, January 25 1985).

ESCAPE of the ROYAL FAMILY OF FRANCE

In the history of events and causes, there never has happened so sudden and so unexpected a Revolution nor so wonderful and well planned an escape, as the silent and unperceived departure of their CHRISTIAN MAJESTIES and THEIR FAMILY, from those vigilant guards placed round them in the Palace of the Tuilleries, to prevent that escape...

The escape of the Royal Family was made at one o'clock on Tuesday morning, nor was it discovered until between seven and eight, when the Commandant of the Castle of the Tuilleries went towards the King's apartment, to see whether his Majesty was stirring. He was met by one of the household, who told him that neither the King, Queen, the Dauphin, nor the Princess Elizabeth were to be found...

The dress in which they escaped is not so well authenticated, nor do we believe that it is precisely known to any one. It is probable that they were disguised, (some say as peasants, some say that the King was dressed as a shoemaker, and the Queen as a fruit woman, though this is all conjecture) but even in this manner it would have been impossible for them to have got away, unless a part of the guard which does duty at the Tuilleries had been bribed, for sentinels were placed all

round the palace. It is suspected, and certainly with a degree of probability, that M. de la FAYETTE was privy to the design, for it turns out that several sentinels were not on duty on the Monday night. We some time since hinted to the public that M. de la FAYETTE's visits to the QUEEN had of late been frequent and that many persons suspected him of having been gained over to the Royal party through her persuasions. Certain it is that the people of Paris entertained this suspicion, for no sooner was the King's escape known, than M. de la FAYETTE and M. de CAZALES were seized and held in confinement, until a deputation from the National Assembly rescued them.

The Duke d'AUMONT was likewise stopped by the mob, and the clothes torn off his back. The people were conducting him to the Palais de Greve, with an intention of hanging him à la lanterne but he was fortunately rescued by the National Guard.

The escape was certainly made through one of the private doors of the palace: it is believed through a passage leading from the pavilion in which the Queen slept, and from which there is a private communication to the garden. This avenue had no sentry placed over it. It is said that the Royal Family got into their carriages at the Pont Royal, a short distance from the palace. It is further believed that several officers of the King's former body guard attended the escape, and that some of them followed the Royal carriages at a little distance dressed in liveries: for about fifty persons immediately in the confidence of their Majesties are missing, and several have left the capital within the last fortnight. But the escape was most secretly contrived and admirably executed, as human wisdom could have suggested, for relays of horses were stationed on the road all the way to French Flanders, in order to facilitate the journey...

Major's warning on EC powers

Continued from page 1

in London, France, which had proposed both Strasbourg and Lyon as sites for the bank, would win confirmation that the plenary sessions of the European parliament would remain in Strasbourg.

Continuing his efforts to persuade Tory rebels at home that he is not a secret sympathiser with calls for renegotiation of the Maastricht treaty, Mr Major told yesterday's meeting that he was determined that Britain would ratify the treaty. He reiterated Britain's objections to M Delors's plans to raise the EC budget by 30 per cent during the 1990s, even though the Commission president has now accepted any new budget will be phased in over seven years and not five. British officials said that the government still had "serious problems" with the spending increases suggested and the dispute would continue throughout the British presidency.

The Italian foreign minister suggested in Lisbon last night that European troops should take part in a humanitarian operation to bring relief supplies to the besieged city of Sarajevo. The leaders were due to discuss the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina but they seemed unlikely to back the Italian proposal.

The difficulty, British government sources said, was ensuring that relief supplies were received by those for whom they were intended, if a ceasefire was not enforced at the city's airport and in the surrounding area.

Summit analysis, page 12
Sarajevo force, page 13

Hong Kong may fear the future, but Bush's man has already seen it



Changing of the diplomatic guard: William FitzGerald, America's new ambassador to Dublin, inspects a guard of honour yesterday after presenting his credentials to President Robinson, while Lord Wilson of

Tillymore, the outgoing governor of Hong Kong, offers a final flash of his colonial feathers as 500 officers of the Royal Hong Kong Police give a farewell salute (Joe Joseph writes). The cocktail party chat-sparked in

diplomatic circles by Chris Patten's appointment as Lord Wilson's replacement has been drowned out by the hoopla over Mr FitzGerald, although many might think that his gift for prediction might be a bonus

Clairvoyant envoy flies in

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

IT IS not often that the arrival of a new ambassador to Ireland merits full media coverage, but then America's new man in Dublin, His Excellency William Henry FitzGerald, 82, who presented his credentials to President Robinson yesterday, could hardly have expected to arrive unnoticed.

Mr FitzGerald, a retired corporate executive who is four years older than his predecessor, caused much merriment throughout Ireland two weeks ago when it was revealed that, during his Senate confirmation hearings in Washington, he appeared to have seen into the future. He was asked by Senator Joseph Biden about the likely outcome of the Maastricht referendum in Ireland which, at that time, was still two weeks away. He replied: "It's already done, it is a fait accompli. On June 18, the referendum was held and 65 per cent of the people favoured it, 11 per cent opposed it..."

When an astonished Senator Biden queried this answer — it was, after all, only June 3 — the ambassador designate quickly corrected himself, admitting that he was "in anticipation" of the result. (In fact, his prediction was not far off). Later in the same hearing, after which his appointment was unanimously ratified, Mr FitzGerald opined that the International Fund for Ireland "will help to encourage dialogue and co-operation between unionists and nationalists and hopefully will impact on the economic situation in Northern Ireland."

While gaffes among political newcomers are all too common, these were ridicu-

lous errors by any standards. Irish-Americans, in particular, took great exception to them. In an editorial entitled "This ambassador should withdraw," the Irish American weekly newspaper the *Irish Voice* said that Mr FitzGerald had made Irish-Americans a laughing stock. "In a week when Americans discovered that their vice-president can't spell potato, Irish-Americans discovered that their new ambassador to Ireland (a) doesn't know what month it is and (b) can't tell the difference between loyalists, unionists and nationalists," it said.

Since then, the ambassador's new staff at the Ballinacorney embassy in Dublin have sprung to his defence, employing non-sensical language not normally associated with even the American diplomatic corps. According to John Treacy, the embassy's spokesman, the new man had committed no more than "verbal typos" which had been seized upon with glee by "small-minded journalists and left-wing groups".

Yesterday the ambassador, who has a long history of public service in America and support for the Republican party, and whose appointment fits a White House pattern of using ambassadorships as a substitute for an honourous system, seemed undaunted by suggestions that he may be too old for the job.

Only the other day, he said, he had enquired of Senator Edward Kennedy how his mother was. The senator had replied: "Oh she's fine, sort of up and down." And she, Mr FitzGerald said, is 101.

Discounts likely on peak holidays

Continued from page 1

price, or to wait in the hope that prices will come down. Our members are now finding customers asking automatically for a discount and depending on where they want to go, they are often having to give it. Others who provide specialist services can afford not to.

Like many others in the business, he blames both the industry itself and the Civil Aviation Authority for licensing so many holidays this year. "It should be a lot tougher for people to increase their capacity as they did this year," he said.

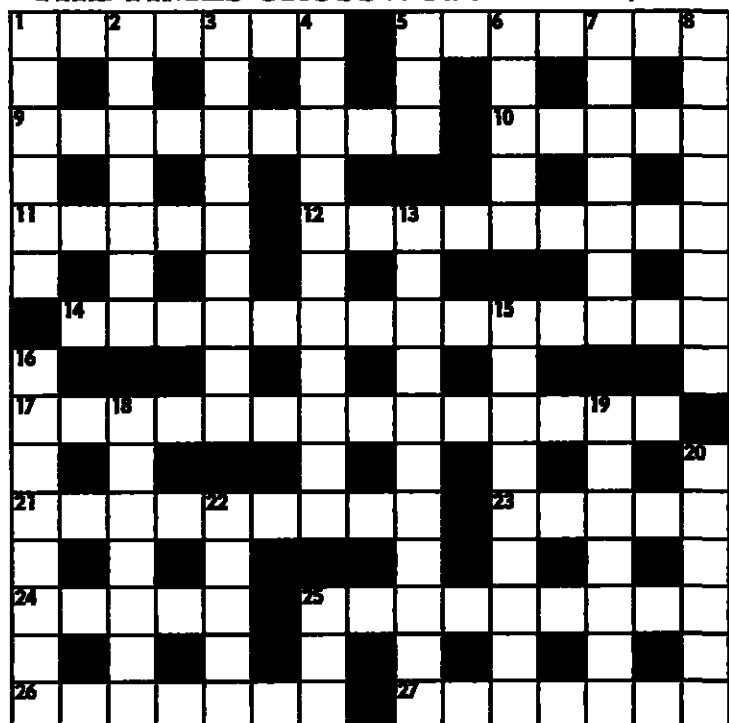
"The CAA should get tough and demand a big payment up-front to show that their expectations are not just pipe dreams. If profits are depleted this year there will be less to invest next and that means that standards could deteriorate. If the discounts are around now customers should make the most of it."

The number of holidays originally licensed by the CAA for this year was more than 13 million but cuts and cancellations will probably result in about 11.5 million Britons going on holiday this year.

Ever since the CAA published details of the number of package holidays licensed — 13.5 million for the full year or an increase of 30 per cent — commercial logic appeared to dictate that at least one big tour operator would go out of business, bringing the market back into balance. That has not happened yet, so by the end of next week, operators may be forced to bite the bullet and cut prices for the sacrosanct school holiday period.

Travel, Saturday Review

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,956



- ACROSS**
- Improving colt starts to come on form for the big race (7).
 - Tale of previously unknown city (7).
 - Manage to attend drunken revel (4,5).
 - Scots aren't capable of producing a tropical plant (3).
 - Unconventional cut in coat (5).
 - Teachers meeting to accept head in election without fear or favour (9).
 - Find it hard to raise the wind after a touch? (4,3,7).
 - A land one possible associates with moving aria (2,5,1,6).
 - Strange forenames for a brother (9).
 - Annual visitor in pleasant accommodation (5).
 - It's the fashion for Harrow to follow ageless Eton (5).
 - Old letter recently found in frank collection (9).
 - Carried back starter from Tandori take-away (7).
 - He cries "Hello", perhaps (7).
- DOWN**
- Shy embraces, with German courtesy (6).
 - Obviously request a new diocesan centre (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,955

APLOMB ARTIFICER
TERRANCE ROOK
GRIFFIN BUSH
GREENGLASS EMBROIDER
A DANCE
STUN EXAMINER
H C G T K L E
P S O S O
SLACKS ULTIMATE
O H A R R E A
GURE MY GOODNESS
S A E U N E T
CHAPERON GADGET

Solution to Puzzle No 18,956

GOLDEN WEDDING
O A V M I R U T
O R A C H I S A D E U
B H N S T I N D O R
E L I N G K N I T B E A K
O E N G L I
R E G A L L Y G R O T I U S
N A I R N N H
O P O S S U M C O N T E N D
T U T A O U E
H U N G A M E N C O P A L
I D M M I O R I
N A S T Y O F F S P R I N G
G E N T L E J I C H
L E A T H E R J A C K E T

PARKER DUOFOLD A prize of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address:

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

- MARCESSANCE**
a. The aroma of brandy
b. The essence of a liquid
c. Withering or drooping
- TESSELLATE**
a. To form a mosaic
b. An early Christian heretic
c. Fitted with benches
- PRESCIND**
a. To nip in the bud
b. The clerk of a presbytery
c. Foretelling the future
- BATRACHIAN**
a. Having double columns
b. Pertaining to frogs
c. Zig-zag writing

Answers on page 16

FOR THE LATEST REGION BY REGION FORECAST

24 hours a day, dial 0891 5000 followed by the appropriate code.

- Greater London 701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex 702
Dorset, Wiltshire & IOW 703
Devon & Cornwall 704
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset 705
Berkshire, Bucks, Oxford 706
Bedfordshire & Essex 707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire 708
West Midlands & Shropshire 709
Shropshire, Herefordshire & Worcestershire 710
Central Midlands 711
East Midlands 712
Lincs & Humberside 713
Dyfed & Powys 714
Gwynedd & Chwyd 715
N Wales 716
W & S Wales & Dales 717
N & E England 718
Cumbria & Lake District 719
S W Scotland 720
W Central Scotland 721
Edin & Lothian & Borders 722
E Central Scotland 723
Northumbria & E Highlands 724
N W Scotland 725
Cathness, Orkney & Shetland 726
N Ireland 727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 40p per minute at all other times.

ROADWORK

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE

C London (within N & S Circles) 731

M25/M40 732

M25/M40 733

M25/M40 734

M25/M40 735

M25/M40 736

National

National motorways 737

West Country 738

Wales 739

Midlands 740

East Angles 741

North-west England 742

North-east England 743

Scotland 744

Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwork is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 40p per minute at all other times.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 8am to 6pm, 24C (75F); min 6pm to 8am, 14C (57F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 14.5hr.

Today: Temp: max 8am to 6pm, 20C (68F); min 6pm to 8am, 14C (57F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 14.5hr.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: W J Smart, St Luke's Close, Evesham, Worcestershire; J D Noble, Riverside, Abbotsford Park, Galashiels; E Wright, Bisham Gardens, London; D J Hutson, Ranelagh Crescent, Ascot, Berkshire; B A L Field, Greenacres, Highway Lane, Keele, Staffordshire.

WEATHER

Northern Ireland and western Scotland will be mostly cloudy with further outbreaks of light rain. Eastern Scotland will be mostly dry with sunny spells. The Northern Isles and the far north of Scotland will have sunny periods and scattered showers, heavy and blustery at times. England and Wales will be generally dry with long sunny periods but with occasional light showers over more northern parts. Outlook: little change but turning cloudier.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: l=thunder, d=dizzle, lg=log, s=sun, st=sleet, sn=snow, l=low, c=cloud, r=rain

C	F	C	F
Algeria	28/32	Madrid	21/31
Alex'dria	28/37	Malaga	24/35
Algiers	28/37	Malaga	24/35
Amst'dm	21/30	Milan	24/35
Athens	30/36	Moscow	14/27
Bahrein	27/39	Munich	21/30
Bangkok	31/38	Nairobi	24/35
Berlin	22/32	Naples	25/37
Buenos Aires	22/32	Nice	22/32
Cairo	28/37	Oslo	25/37
Cape Town	24/35	Paris	22/32
Chicago	24/35	Peking	25/37
Columbo	28/37	Perth	17/23
Cyprus	28/37	Riyadh	22/32
Dublin	19/26	Rome	25/37
Edinburgh	22/32	Santiago	8/46
Frankfurt	22/32	Sao Paulo	22/32
Helsinki	22/32	Seoul	22/32
Hong Kong	22/32	Singapore	31/38
Istanbul	28/37	Singapore	31/38
Jakarta	28/37	Singapore	31/38
Jerusalem	28/37	Singapore	31/38
London	22/32	Singapore	31/38
Luxembourg	22/32	Singapore	31/38
Luxembourg	22/32	Singapore	31/38
Luxembourg	22/32	Singapore	31/38

* denotes figures are latest available

LIGHTING UP TIMES

TODAY

London 9:22 pm to 4:46 am

Edinburgh 10:03 pm to 4:29 am

Manchester 9:42 pm to 4:42 am

Penzance 9:36 pm to 5:15 am

TOMORROW

London 9:22 pm to 4:47 am

Edinburgh 10:03 pm to 4:30 am

Manchester 9:42 pm to 4:43 am

Penzance 9:36 pm to 5:15 am

NOON TODAY

London 1000

Edinburgh 1000

Manchester 1000

Penzance 1000

NOON TOMORROW

London 1000

Edinburgh 1000

Manchester 1000

Penzance 1000

NOON TOMORROW

London 1000

Edinburgh 1000

Manchester 1000

Penzance 1000

TOURIST RATES

Bank Buys Bank Sells

Australia \$ 2.58 2.41

Austria Sch 21.50 20.00

Belgium Fr 36.36 33.33

Canada C\$ 1.75 1.60

Denmark Dkr 11.75 10.80

France Fr 10.25 9.50

Germany Dm 1.00 0.95

Greece Dr 370.00 345.00

Hong Kong \$ 15.20 14.80

Ireland P 1.14 1.07

Italy Lira 2310.00 2160.00

Japan Yen 256.00 237.00

Netherlands Gld 11.87 11.17

Norway Kr 11.75 10.80

Portugal Esc 200.00 180.00

Spain Ptas 166.64 155.50

Sweden Kr 11.75 10.80

Switzerland Fr 2.74 2.56

Taiwan N\$ 136.00 126.00

USA \$ 1.57 1.44

Yugoslavia Dnr 100.00 90.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

STOCK MARKET

FTSE 100 2848.40

FTSE 250 2848.40

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Can you solve this puzzle faster than Einstein?

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Olivetti bows to share stake link with US rival

BY WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

ATTEMPTS to keep the European computer industry free from foreign influences suffered another setback yesterday, when Olivetti, the Italian computer maker, bowed to the inevitable and agreed to an equity link with an American rival, Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC).

The two companies, which have a co-operation deal over personal computers, have agreed that DEC will become a shareholder, eventually holding 10 per cent. Initially DEC will take 4 per cent for £172.13 billion (£78.2 million), another 4 per cent for the same price before the end of 1994, plus another 2 per cent to be bought next June on the open market.

The deal follows a similar agreement between Groupe Bull, the French computer maker, and International Business Machines (IBM). This leaves only Siemens, the German electronics group, as an indigenous European computer maker without a strategic equity partner, although this does not take account of the numerous industrial and technological alliances common in the business.

Olivetti and DEC co-operate in personal computers, which Olivetti supplies to Digital. Aside from the equity element, yesterday's deal also includes a strengthening of their industrial links, the most important being the decision by Olivetti to adopt DEC's Alpha RISC (reduced instruction set computing) microprocessor technology for the next generation of its computers. RISC chips are faster than the present type. The choice of an appropriate RISC technology was also the main consideration in Bull's decision to link up with IBM.

The link widens the customer base for DEC's technology. International computer groups are involved in a tough battle over standards, especially in RISC, with the market leaders, such as IBM, Hewlett-Packard and DEC, trying to secure as many loyal supporters of their respective technologies as possible.

Pierre Carlo Falot, president of DEC Europe, spoke of "expanding the reach of Digital's technology".

Carlo de Benedetti, Olivetti's chairman and chief executive, insisted the deal was not part of a slippery slope leading to DEC taking control. He said CIR, his holding company, "will hold the largest share of Olivetti's equity which is consistent with its long-term commitment to manage Olivetti's business".

He said the deal should not be seen as a precursor to a merger, since mergers have a bad record in this business, citing the Siemens-Nixdorf merger as an example.

De Benedetti reiterated that the company was trying to break even this year after last year's £459.8 billion loss.

DEC equity deal does not signal merger: Carlo de Benedetti, chairman of Olivetti



DEC equity deal does not signal merger: Carlo de Benedetti, chairman of Olivetti

Morland answers Greene King bid with surging profit forecast

BY MARTIN WALLER

MORLAND, the embattled small Thames Valley brewer facing a £104 million hostile bid from the larger Greene King, has hit back with a pre-tax profit forecast for the year to end-September of at least £7.6 million, a 28 per cent rise.

The figure is broadly in line with City forecasts, but Jasper Clutterbuck, Morland's chief executive, said a recent five-year deal with Courage would add £800,000 to profits, a figure confirmed by Grant Thornton, the accountant.

and SG Warburg, the merchant bank.

Greene King's convertible shares offer, therefore, offered an exit multiple of just 16.7 times a year's earnings and the 450p cash terms on offer 15.7 times. This compared with an average among regional brewers of 15.6 and for Greene King of 16.0, he said.

"Clearly they are paying no premium for the quality of the company and no premium for control," Mr Clutterbuck said. Morland was put in play by

Whitbread Investment Company, which sold 28.5 per cent of the company to Greene King and pledged the remaining 14.9 per cent it holds to the bidder. "WIC may have chosen to sell out most unfortunately at that price. It's absolutely not in the interests of any other shareholders so to do," Mr Clutterbuck said.

Morland is also forecasting a rise in the dividend of 18 per cent to 8.4p.

Greene King said the profit forecast was "very unexciting."

Burnfield in cash call for expansion

BY MICHAEL TATE
CITY EDITOR

BRIAN McGowan and Ian Staples have swooped on a high-tech business in Worcestershire to provide a third leg for Burnfield, the specialist engineering group where they took control a couple of years ago.

Mr McGowan, the chairman of Williams Holdings and Mr Staples, the chief executive, who came in from Halfords, are raising £22.7 million via a three shares-for-four rights issue, and are spending £20 million on buying Malvern Instruments from Cray Electronics.

Malvern Instruments manufactures machines that measure the size of particles in anything from a pot of paint to an asthma inhaler, and they have rapidly increasing usage in quality control and the monitoring of industrial processes.

Over the past 20 years or so since it was founded, initially to use and develop technology from the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment, Malvern has carved out a 30 per cent share of the world market and is twice the size of any of its competitors.

Some 85 per cent of production is exported, with a third going to America. In the year to end April it made operating profits of £2 million on sales of £14.7 million.

Mr Staples believes there is strong sales growth potential but is also convinced he can make significant productivity improvements within the first six months.

At Budenberg, the acquisition made last year, he claims a gain of 40 per cent in productivity to date.

The rights issue, which will be supported by the directors, who speak for some 6 per cent of the equity, is priced at 165p a share.

On the stock market yesterday Burnfield shares eased 9p to 206p. The deal is good for Cray, which acquired Malvern in 1985.

"The proposed disposal will eliminate our debt, strengthen the balance sheet and allow Cray to concentrate its future strategy on information technology," said Sir Peter Michael, the chairman.

He added that it was the intention of Cray Electronics to pay a dividend of 0.5p a share for the year ended last April.

Loss-making Bett axes its interim dividend

BETT Brothers, a Dundee-based developer and housebuilder, stayed in the red in the six months to February 29, and is passing its interim dividend. The shares plunged 18p to 65p. The group was forced to make substantial provisions against an ill-starred South of England commercial property venture, which more than wiped out the operating profit of £2.2 million. Exceptional items totalled £8.41 million, leaving a pre-tax loss of £7.52 million (£513,000 profit). There was, however, a loss of £8.3 million in the second half of last year.

Iain Bett, chairman, said a recovery programme was under way; an important step had been the recently agreed sale of Victoria Tower, in Aberdeen, for £7.5 million. The main businesses had traded profitably since February.

Torday division for sale

TORDAY & Carlisle, the Tyneside engineering group, has put its loss-making Oldham Signs subsidiary up for sale and is planning a strong push into the Continent. The company plans to take the car-plating business of DMI, the diesel engine and marine business, into Continental Europe and is keen to expand the existing European distribution network of its Elfab-Hughes subsidiary. The sale of Oldham Signs, which made a loss of £1 million last year, will help fund the expansion.

Camellia falls back

CAMELLIA, an investment company with interests in fine art and tea plantations, saw pre-tax profits decline to £13.1 million (£20.4 million) in the year to December 31. Turnover slipped to £163.9 million (£181.2 million). A final dividend of 16p (nil) makes 27p (25p) for the year. Camellia has a collection of historical manuscripts for investment purposes and runs tea plantations in America and India. Turnover was affected by adverse exchange rates.

Sixth rise for Syltne

A SHARP fall in interest charges helped Syltne, the Bradford transport engineering group, to raise profits for the sixth year running. Interest payable fell to £216,000 (£344,000), lifting pre-tax profits to £2.87 million (£2.73 million) for the year to end-March. Turnover was £34.97 million (£33.67 million). A final dividend of 6.3p (6p) a share makes 9.45p (9p) for the year. Trading profits were hit by a setback at Rotocold, the vehicle leasing and air conditioning subsidiary.

Vistec lifts profits

VISTEC, the computer services company, increased pre-tax profits to £2.7 million (£1.76 million) in the year to April 30. Turnover increased to £32.3 million (£31 million). Earnings per share rose to 1.52p (0.95p). An unchanged 0.2p final makes 0.3p (0.2p) for the year. The company repaid £2.5 million in medium-term debt during the year and increased cash balances from £1.71 million to £4.37 million. Vistec is stepping up its search for acquisitions.

Marling calls for cash

MARLING Industries, a manufacturer of industrial textiles and vehicle bodies, announced a £19.3 million rights issue after making an £11.9 million pre-tax loss in the year to March 31. Four new shares, at 15p each, are offered for each existing one. The proceeds will be used for working capital and to redeem outstanding convertible preference shares. Preference shareholders have agreed to waive both arrears of dividends and the next dividend, due on June 30.

Lasmo settles for less

ULTRAMAR Corporation shares are being offered at \$15 each, a discount of at least \$4 on the price Lasmo originally sought for its interest in the North American downstream assets acquired from the £1.2 billion hostile takeover of Ultramar. Net proceeds of the offer will total \$865 million. Following the share offer, Lasmo will have raised \$1.23 billion from the disposal and operation of Ultramar's downstream businesses. Lasmo shares rose 1p to 177p.

British Land links

BRITISH Land has joined with Bank Julius Baer, the Swiss merchant bank, to launch a credit service for institutions and private investors trading in the London stock market. The service will be run by Shore Capital Finance, a subsidiary of Shore Capital Group, which is 40 per cent owned by BL. Bank Julius Baer is providing a "multi-million pound" credit line for an initial period of three years. Shore Capital will lend up to 70 per cent of bargain value at 14 per cent APR.

Japan's shareholders find bribery the order of the day

FROM JOANNA PITMAN
IN TOKYO

THE highlight of the business calendar fell yesterday for Japan's 1,250 "sokaiya" or professional extortionists, when about 2,000 companies held their annual shareholders' meetings, deliberately staging them at the same time to dilute the efforts of these underworld-affiliated vultures.

The sokaiya, who make a living digging dirt on Japanese corporations and threatening to reveal all at annual meetings, have had a bumper

year, delving into a selection of choice financial scandals leaked last year.

The prestigious Industrial Bank of Japan, for example, made itself an obvious target when it was disclosed last autumn that the bank had lent ¥240 billion (£1 billion) to a former waitress and suspected gangster moll, now in jail charged with procuring illegal loans to fund stock market investments.

But it is one of Japan's worst kept secrets that the lips of the sokaiya are very simply sealed for a consideration of several

million yen. Yesterday's IBJ shareholders' meeting was wound up in just 26 minutes after board members dispensed with the formalities at a cracking pace and ignored questions.

Tokai Bank, found last year to have perpetrated a ¥63 billion fraud, was either less lucky or had not come to a prior agreement with its adversaries. Every time Kiichiro Ito, the president, began his long and humble scandal apology routine, a sokaiya sitting near the front row leapt to his feet and yelled

"bakayaro!", loosely translated as "You bloody old fool!"

Waving an ominous-looking attaché case, which he claimed was full of murky secrets concerning more scandals, the man wandered off into a side room and re-emerged with a large grin sealing his lips, and probably a fatter wallet in his pocket. His colleagues, wondering what they could earn from a fresh dose of invective and a little threatened dirt, kept the president bowing and re-starting his apologies for three hours, in what became the

longest meeting of the day. Tokyu Dentetsu, the railway company involved in a share dealing scam with the late Susumu Ishii, head of one of Japan's largest underworld mobs, was besieged by sokaiya. Every time a board member stood up to express remorse over the scandal and vow it would never be repeated, a chorus of yells and cat calls issued from the audience.

The meeting dragged on for several hours and the company's docile non-extortionist shareholders failed to get a word in.

TEMPUS

BP prospects depend on dividend and direction



Spring in Southern Water's step: William Courtney, who declared a rise in payout

BP probably received more phone calls than it sold barrels of oil yesterday, and yet the guessing game about what the company will do with its dividend goes on.

There is nothing like uncertainty to unsettle a share price, and if the investment world really has to wait until August 6 before seeing the colour of the 1992 second quarterly payment, then BP shares are in for a bumpy ride.

A chart of the share price for the past 12 months already looks like a ragged cliff since BP shares have fallen from 355p last July to 243p immediately before Robert Horton's resignation.

When the London market opened yesterday morning, the shares caught up with overnight market happenings in New York, and the price fell 36½p. By last night's close, BP shares, at 209p, were still at their lowest levels in six years.

BP's share price was already subject to unprecedented volatility in February, and fell 16 per cent in two weeks because of concern over reported 1991 earnings and the widespread fears about 1992 dividend prospects.

The key sentence on dividend philosophy, uttered and signed by Mr Horton on February 20 in his chairman's letter to shareholders,

was: "It remains our aim to maintain its real value over a run of years, and provide growth when trading conditions permit."

Clearly, on the back of poor first-quarter profits, and with the prospect looming of an actual first-time replacement cost loss in the second quarter about to be confirmed, the question is not if BP will cut, but by how much.

After a series of quarterly dividend payments of 4.2p a share, costing roughly £227 million each time, a cutback to 2½p a share is a possibility. If that pattern were to be repeated, it would mean total dividends of 10p a year rather than 16.8p a share.

Perversely, a reduced dividend would ease the pressure on BP. Weaker world economies and low oil prices have obliged the board to continue to make asset sales into weak markets at a time when buyers have been thin on the ground. At the same time, Advance Corporation Tax implications would ensure that a reduced dividend would enhance earnings.

Just how the Kuwait Investment Office, holder of 9.8 per cent of BP — half held in London, half in New York — would feel about a cut in its dividend remains to be seen. BP will not step back into investment favour quickly. But there will come a point

when recovery funds start to pick up cheap stock. Such a point could be hastened by an early BP statement setting out the board's new policy.

Southern Water

WILLIAM Courtney, the chairman of Southern Water, could scarcely have picked a better day to remind the market of his company's income attractions. With "dividend cut" the term on everyone's lips in the square mile in the wake of Robert Horton's departure from BP, shares with "safe" dividends were in renewed demand.

In pumping up its annual distribution 10.2 per cent to 19.5p, with recommendation of a 13p final, Southern more than matched most of its rivals and underlined the group's particular strength in what is a defensive sector.

The results held no great surprises, but were none the worse for that. Even after stripping the £15.1 million pre-tax profit of the £6 million exceptional surplus made on the sale of the group's minority holdings in three water companies to the French, the increase was still in excess of 12 per cent. A less cautious board might have stretched to an even bigger hike in the dividend. About £7 million of the

trading profit came from interest beyond the regulator's reach, although Southern has little enough need to live in fear of Ofwat. About 70 per cent of its post-tax profits are being ploughed back into the investment programme. Over the past year, the group spent £171 million on capital projects — 21 per cent more than in the previous year — but still ended up with a net cash balance.

The spending programme was dominated by the final stages of the upgrading of 179 inland waste water treatment plants, all of which were successfully completed before the January 1 1992 deadline. The emphasis now switches to coastal discharges, where good progress is already being claimed.

It seems reasonable to assume that Southern is capable of lifting profits towards £120 million this year, which would encourage Mr Courtney and his colleagues to raise the dividend above 21p. This suggests that the shares, 5p higher at 411p last night, are selling on a forward yield of at least 6.8 per cent, which would be sufficient reason alone for holding the shares. Add in a freshly-discovered ability to outperform much of the rest of the water industry in earnings growth terms, and they begin to look positively attractive.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

"I understand that I am sometimes compared with Robert Maxwell, but to believe that you would have to believe that there is some chance that we at the Telegraph — or me in particular — were sitting here doing things that would lead straight to a jail cell..."

Conrad Black, interviewed in The Sunday Times Business tomorrow

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BUSINESS PROFILE: Peter Davis

The rise and rise of a natural salesman

Carol Leonard charts the progress of Reed International's chairman from the stores to the boardroom

The Queen is supposed to be able to do it. So too could Margaret Thatcher. Some people say it is because they have such good advisers. Peter Davis, the chairman and chief executive of Reed International, can do it too. Far from being prompted, however, he leaves his advisers speechless. For he never forgets a name, a face, where it was you last met or the subject discussed.

"It's quite extraordinary," says one of those advisers, Jan Shawe, Reed's director of corporate communications. "He'll introduce you to someone you think you've never met before and say 'Yes, you remember, you met them four years ago at so-and-so's, they used to work for such-and-such.'"

Peter Davis, 50, exerts his well covered 6ft 3ins frame into a small, upright leather chair.

He is a large man — "My weight is a sensitive subject. I'm a stone more than I should be but a stone less than my top weight" — in a large office, furnished with two full-size sofas, a big, functional desk and a huge modern oil painting, in orange and yellow, by Albert Irvin. "Yes I do have a very good memory for certain things," he says. "I'm very good at remembering people and connections but ask me about last year's figures and I won't have a clue I will, however, know how to find out."

The secret to understanding Peter Davis is to realise that, above all else, he is a so-called people person, a natural salesman, talkative, approachable and interested. When he started his first job with a small engineering company, as a 17-year-old school leaver, with two A levels, his then boss said: "You are not an accountant, you are not an engineer and you talk a lot so you had better be a salesman." It is that obvious interest in people that makes him so different.

Shawe agrees. "He is terribly curious about people, he notices everything about them, and I mean absolutely everything." In his previ-

ous job at J. Sainsbury — where he was assistant managing director of Sainsbury and deputy chairman of Homebase — he was, she says, "known for fixing people with what they called the gimlet stare."

That penetrating stare is, according to colleagues, his way of indicating displeasure. He also uses it — covertly if he can — when he meets someone for the first time. It is as if he has fixed you with a laser beam, is stripping all your details from you, and, in one continuous process, committing them to his memory banks for all time. Davis is emotional — "More than I probably admit, I find it difficult to drive along The Strand at night, for instance, with all those people sleeping in cardboard boxes" — has presence and charisma, but is not known to be temperamental. That gimlet stare is as far as he needs go.

"I have never seen him lose his temper," says Sir James Blyth, chief executive of Boots, who once worked with and for Davis when they were product managers at General Foods. "He is no different at work or at home. If you have met Peter once you have met him a thousand times. Fundamentally he is a pretty nice guy, very bright but not ruthless. Of course he could be if he had to be, he is not soft, but it does not come naturally to him, he is a genuinely caring person. If he had to close something down he would worry about it for several nights beforehand. He gets a tremendous amount of support from the people he works with because he is kind and fair."

In the past two years, Reed, which has survived the recession better than most, has laid off 2,500 people, more than 20 per cent of its workforce. Davis admits that the redundancy programme did cause him to worry but denies that he suffered too many sleepless nights. "I try to compartmentalise home and business life. If I take a briefcase home my wife tries to make sure that I don't open it." When redundancies, sackings or



A private life: Peter Davis in relaxed mood — but he refuses to have his wife or children photographed

closures are necessary, however, he prides himself on always pulling the trigger in person. "When we got rid of our legal department here I called them all in, including the secretaries and support staff and told them what we were doing. I believe in leading from the front." For all that warmth and compassion, Davis is, however, surprisingly restrained. Blyth, one of his closest male friends — he is godfather to Davis's daughter and Davis's wife Sue is godmother to Blyth's — would normally be greeted by Davis with "a handshake and a teasing remark", never an arm around the shoulder. The initial impression he creates might lead one to expect it but he is not, in fact, a tactile man.

Davis also refuses to disclose the names of his three children, aged 21, 20 and 15, or to be photographed with his wife. "I think children are at enough of a disadvantage if they have a successful father without being identified." And although his chauffeur-driven Bentley represents "the fulfilment of a schoolboy dream", he is, he says, wary of taking it to his

daughter's school. "People do react differently to you if you are in a car like that. You have to be careful about such things." Again, contrary to what one might initially expect, he is a man who always stops and thinks before he acts.

Davis, therefore, is a man given to consideration and his thoughts are often characterised by their originality. In business circles he is noted for his flair and clarity of vision. In the six years he has been chief executive of Reed — salary £390,000 last year — he has refocused the group, concentrating on publishing and selling its interests in paper and packaging. He has often been quoted as saying that you should concentrate on what you do best.

Indeed, so clear is his vision that when he was 22, Davis told his boss, in that small engineering company, that he wanted to be the chief executive of a big company by the time he was 50. He achieved it with six years to spare.

As for those original thoughts, Davis encourages aspiring executives to stray from conventional career paths. "I think you should

decide what you want to do and go for it," he says. "Don't always do what is expected." He describes his own career as having "lurched in different directions, and I have often taken a reduction in salary and position to move in a new direction." One such change came when he sent a letter, out of the blue, to David Sainsbury requesting a job. He was then 34 years old. A year later he was on the board.

Perhaps as a consequence, Davis now makes a point of reading all letters addressed to him, especially those seeking employment. "Unfortunately I get an awful lot of them at the moment but every so often one letter will jump out at you as being a bit different. Every couple of months I will meet one of those people and maybe give them a job." He is a rare chief executive indeed.

His unconventional approach has sometimes taken personnel professionals by surprise. When interviewing graduates for Sainsbury his favourite question was to ask them to describe the last meal

they had eaten in a restaurant. "If they weren't interested in food, what was the point of them working for a food company? I wanted them to talk with enthusiasm, to salivate." Davis would be salivating too. He loves food "and large quantities of it. I can enjoy anything from a cheeseburger at McDonald's to a meal at Le Souffle." But his favourite meal is the steak-in-a-bun served at his local pub, accompanied by a glass of good claret. He mentions that he sent both his sons on a cookery course at Pru Leith's school and also on a typing course. "I think it is essential for everybody to be able to use a word processor in this day and age."

Davis is also an outspoken advocate of the combined role of chairman and chief executive, an unfashionable viewpoint and one, in this instance, based largely on personal desire. "I like aspects of both," he says. "I like the operating side and the thrill of operating costs and new products but I also like tackling strategy. There is no one answer for all companies at all times. It's up to the board of that

company to decide how to run that company and for the shareholders to shout if they don't like it. It's important to have a good strong board of directors so that they can stand up and say, 'Hang on, you can't do that', which mine do often."

Davis likes the directness of that approach. He is, he points out, a northerner — born and brought up on Merseyside, his father, a cotton trader-turned-stamp dealer, was a local man and his mother Dutch. "I like the openness and directness of northerners." He still remembers vividly his three-month "induction course" in his first job. "They decided that the only thing to do with a public schoolboy (Shrewsbury) was to put him in the engineering stores in a brown coat. I learned an awful lot of swear words."

As a schoolboy he was not the sort of child who would have sworn. He recalls himself as being "plump with glasses, not very good at games, not particularly bright," but a keen sailor and an enthusiastic actor.

He also had political leanings and was a prominent member of the Young Conservatives. He now dislikes discussing politics in public, hiding behind the excuse that Reed is a non-political company and makes no political donations. He says, however, that he voted Conservative in the last election, and that "after a lot of soul searching" he was one of the signatories to Sir Allen Sheppard's letter to *The Times* before the last general election, urging people to vote Conservative. He was, he says, at one stage an active Liberal, but then became a Tory wet.

His "wet" leanings are perhaps reflected in the nature and nature of his external activities. His list of seven active non-Reed roles include chairmanship of the Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit, vice chairmanship of the financial development board of the NSPCC, deputy chairmanship of Business in the Community and membership of the council of the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts.

If Davis had not become a businessman, what other career might he have pursued? Shawe suggests a vicar. "No, I wouldn't have been able to live on the stipend," is Davis's response. Blyth agrees. "He is too much of a political animal for that. I think politics has always been close to his heart. He would have made a good politician." But, as Blyth would readily admit, a politician's salary of £30,000 would also have turned out to be far too small, for any length of time, for such a big man.

WEEK ENDING Matthew Bond

Talk it up, talk it down and make yourself an instant millionaire

LOOK, if I tell you something will you promise to keep it under your hat. Promise now, not a word to anyone? You see, it could be just a teeny bit embarrassing if the news gets out too soon. You know the sort of thing — all those begging letters from Lloyd's names and BP shareholders, strange men turning up on penny-farthings, business propositions from Irish aircraft leasing companies. All best avoided if possible.

So this is strictly between you and me, you understand. Because the fact is I think I'm on to a real winner, a killing, a result — call it what you will. But whatever you call it, the bottom line is "I'm going to be rich!" Let me explain.

The whole thing began a few months ago when the course of my pre-creative, warm-up exercises for this column (my video, *Columnettes: The Bitch and Sign Diet* will be in the shops soon) was interrupted by a phone call. Sweating slightly after 50 leader page turns (sorry, you'll have to buy the video) I grabbed the receiver. It was the editor's secretary. He wanted to see me... now.

No sooner bidden as they say. "Sit down," came the command. I sat. "Now Bond, about this Weekend column..." Much of what followed I am ashamed to admit rather passed over my head, but the odd phrase left me in no doubt as to the direction the monologue was taking. "Corporate rethink... shift in strategy... global reorientation... core businesses... slimming down... peripheral activities... divestments." He had said it. Weekend was to be divested.



"So Bond, do you think you've got what it takes? It's down to you now."

My mouth opened, but no words came out. Quickly I switched my mind to rewind, in search of some explanation for this dramatic turn in events. "Selling opportunity... buying opportunity... incumbent management... funds available... knock-down price... management buyout." Management buyout — the magic words. Slowly and gloriously the confusion cleared. I was to be an owner.

The delicate problem of the consideration was quickly settled. He wanted a tinner for the column, but a quick turn-out of pockets confirmed my total resources at two quid. "A fiver and I'll even wrap it up," he compromised. Two minutes and a sprint round the office later, we had a deal. For my £2 I had 94 per cent, while three colleagues paid a pound for 2 per cent stakes. Well, it was my idea.

That, as I said, was a few months ago. Since then, well to be honest, since then nothing very much has changed. True each paperclip and ball-point is now assiduously accounted for and true we did shed research and development after an independent consultant pointed out how many more columns could be written unencumbered by facts. But these minor changes apart, life carries on pretty much as normal.

Or at least it did until a fortnight ago when an old acquaintance from university — now something in the City — rang. "Corporate finance... smaller companies... investor demand... economic recovery... earnings growth... previous years... restate profits... stock market float... millions."

I pulled him up: "How many millions?" "Well, by my calculations and assuming a following wind, I'd say about £27 million. Which, given the £2 you

paid for your original stake three-and-a-half months ago is... well, is a pretty average return for the sort of buyout floats we're handling these days."

Average it may be, but the phone has not stopped ringing since the news started to leak out. Had that David Coleridge on this morning, wondering whether I could help him with a little £2 billion problem he had at Lloyd's. Well, it was a beautiful morning so I backed a bunch. "Stick me down for a few million pounds worth of that catastrophe stuff, David. I feel good about the world. Be lucky."

Then someone called Bob Horton came on wondering if I'd be recruiting any non-executive directors. Sure, I said, as long as they understand who's boss. He hung up. A couple of minutes later there was a conference call with Conrad Black and Roger Gibbs to discuss matters of mutual interest. Diversify or die, we agreed, each put the others down for a couple of million shares each.

The one sour point of the day, was a call from a journalist. "How do you respond to the suggestion that you would have to write 45 Weekend columns a week for the next 375 years to justify your 1993 profits forecast?" he asked. I told him.

Of course, I'm sure that my new-found wealth is not going to change my life or not once Knight Frank & Rutley has found the Dorset manor house that would set off my new position rather well. Oh, excuse me, there goes the phone. "Hello." It's my old friend from college again, you know the one who is handling the float. "What's that?"

"Market jitters... Tokyo nerves... New York nerves... London nerves... OECD forecasts... revised down... scaled down... yield gap worries... dividend outlook... scaled down again... recovery prospects... slackening demand... pulled indefinitely." Yes I see. Could someone get me Mr Coleridge on the phone?

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BRITISH FUNDS

1992	High	Low	Stock	Price	1m	Gr	1992	High	Low	Stock	Price	1m	Gr
SHORTS (under 5 years)													
101%	100%	100%	Each 12/12/1992	100%	12.30	0.72	105%	100%	100%	Each 12/12/1992	105%	100%	0.14
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WALL STREET
blue chips edge up

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WEEKEND MONEY

THE TIMES SATURDAY JUNE 27 1992

23

Edited by Lindsay Cook

Binned votes can cost money

It was the massed voice of building society investors that brought about a change of policy on accounts closed to new customers. Before any ruling was made by the ombudsman, both building societies and banks that wanted to reassure long-term investors were putting in place measures to inform customers which accounts were offering the best returns.

Nationwide annoyed a large proportion of its investors at the end of 1990. Most of them contacted the society, newspapers and the ombudsman to complain of being locked into an account at a lower rate for 90 days or of not being told about a new instant access account paying a higher rate.

One member of the society tried to prevent it ever happening again by putting a resolution to the annual meeting of the society. Almost 90,000 members supported it but it was defeated by proxy votes held by the society's chairman.

However, the society has bowed

to that investor opinion. It improved its publicity last year and writes to members whose savings are in accounts closed to new customers when new accounts offering similar features are offered.

Just how long 'is new investor-friendly stance will survive must be of concern to all members. One way they can ensure that it is more than just a marketing gimmick is to elect their own member to the board at next month's annual meeting. All they have to do is find the form already sent to them by the society and send it off pretty quickly.

Societies do not have a very good record when it comes to helping members on to their boards. Those who succeed can be counted on one hand.

Voting papers from societies are not a junk mailing. One society stopped sending out proxy forms



COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

automatically on merger issues because investors were complaining about receiving the mailing. Only a tiny proportion of its members bothered to apply for forms and vote. It may save money but it is not democracy.

Debt duty

Too many people are still struggling with large debts. The largest and most worrying of these debts is likely to be a mortgage, eagerly offered by a building society when times were

good and prices were rising. Now that the housebuying dream has turned sour, the same societies appear less than keen to help those they tempted into large commitments manage their debts.

Only a handful of building societies have taken the opportunity to help fund the Money Advice Trust, the charity set up two years ago to channel private sector funding into debt advice. One or two others have committed themselves to funding local initiatives like Citizens' Advice Bureaux. The Woolwich, the Nationwide, the Halifax, the Bradford & Bingley

and the Britannia all deserve an honourable mention. But what of the others?

There are about 90 building societies. They cannot have failed to notice the misery that a stagnant housing market creates. They only have to look at their own mortgage books to see how many of their borrowers are in arrears. If people are behind with their mortgages, it is a racing certainty that they will be in difficulties paying other debts too. Credit card bills, poll tax demands and utilities bills all have to be dealt with.

Building societies persist in arguing that they are perfectly capable of helping their own borrowers cope with their debt problems so they do not need to fund money advice centres or any other sort of debt counselling service. The unspoken fear is that an independent money advice

service may advise people to pay their electricity and gas bills and poll tax ahead of their mortgage.

This is a red herring. It would be an irresponsible debt counsellor who advised people in difficulties to ignore their mortgage repayments. The value of a counselling service is that it looks at people's debts as a complete picture and helps those in difficulties to decide how to use the money they have to pay off creditors sensibly. Experienced counsellors can give advice on how to negotiate smaller, regular payments for the most pressing bills, including the mortgage.

More building societies now need to help with funding. Demand for money advice is increasing and inadequately funded local counselling services are struggling.

Societies will not be allowed to lie low and hope the Money Advice Trust will go away. If they do not come up with money, they may find the government imposing a statutory levy for the funding of money advice.

Contents policies will offer more options and bigger excesses

Insurers to tailor home cover as costs climb

By LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR

THE rapidly rising cost of home contents insurance is forcing companies to rethink the way the cover is sold. Several leading companies are looking at offering crisis-only cover or allowing homeowners to exclude their claims from their policies.

Homeowners would agree not to make small claims but would be covered for major losses, and in return their premiums could be dramatically reduced. Insurance companies say that cover for theft on an average contents policy accounts for half the cost of the cover. In some inner city areas, two thirds of the cost of the cover is for theft. The average theft claim last year was £800.

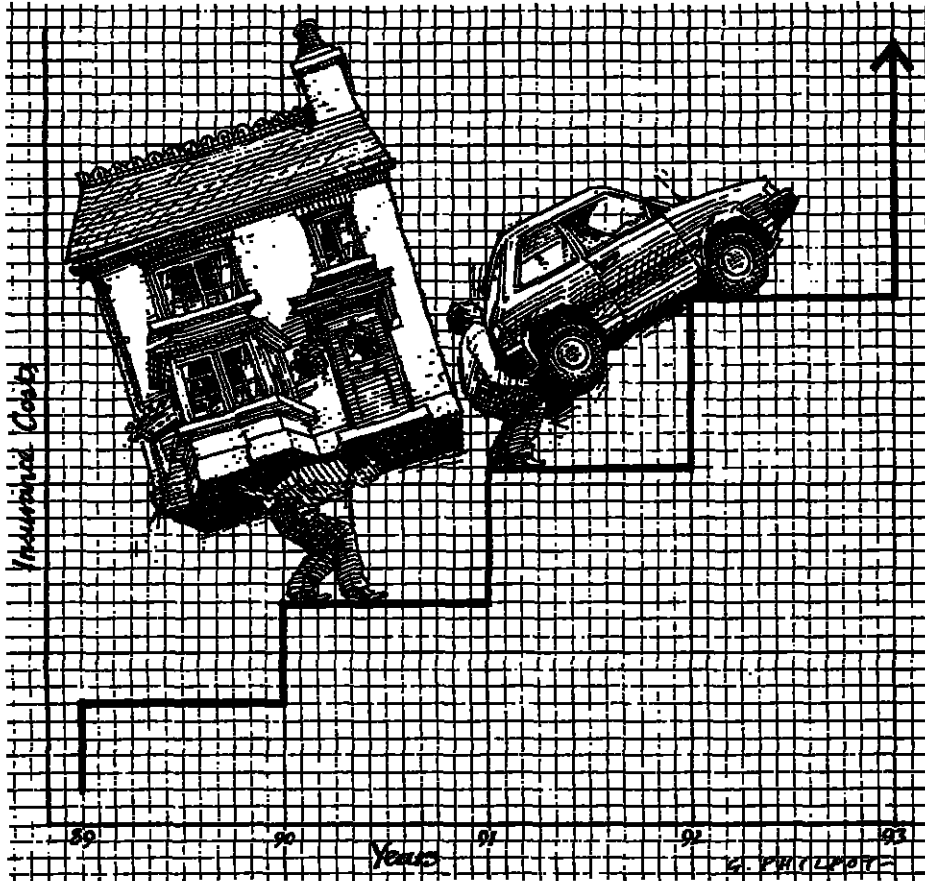
Those households that have never made a claim on their contents policy for theft may feel that they are willing to stand the risk themselves, while continuing with cover for fire and other damage.

Some of the policies which are being developed will operate like motor policies. There will be basic cover and motorists will choose what they want to add to it. Companies are also considering increasing the discounts for good security measures or introducing no claims bonuses for homeowners.

Another option will be to give policyholders more choice in the excess on their policy. This could allow homeowners to agree to pay the first £250, £500 or £1,000 of any claim, and to pay a lower premium to take account of the fact that the insurance company will need less claims administration staff and have a lower risk of paying out anything at all, the higher the excess.

Some companies already allow customers the option to have more than the policy's standard excess of £25 or £50. The reduction in premium varies then according to the part of the country in which the property is located.

Legal & General currently allows customers to reduce their premiums by agreeing to pay the first £100 of any claim. In the lowest rated areas that would normally cost £3.50 per £1,000 of cover, agreeing to pay the first £100 of any claim reduces the



premiums to £3 per £1,000 — a 14 per cent reduction. Those in the highest risk areas which normally cost £15 per £1,000 insured, can see the same 50p reduction on their premiums. For them it is a 3 per cent cut.

In February, David Prosser, group chief executive of Legal & General, gave a warning that insurance would only be for the rich if policyholders kept on making

'The problem has been around a long time. If theft claims go on at this rate people will not be able to insure.'

claims for theft at the rate they have been. Already, 40 per cent of households in high crime areas have no insurance. Often they are the ones most at risk of being broken into.

Rod Young, director of personal insurance at L&G, said: "The problem has been around for a long time. If theft claims go on at this rate people will not be able to insure."

He said: "We would like to

give more choice instead of a standard contract so that the policyholders can design their own cover like they do with motor policies. Maybe that basic policy would not cover theft at all.

"We are considering it. We would be happy to offer a policy with no theft cover. The average cost for theft cover exceeds the rest of the cover altogether. In central London, the part of the pre-

mium for theft is more than twice the remainder."

However, the company is worried that people will not understand the implications of taking out a "no theft" policy. It feels customers would be better off agreeing to pay the first several hundred pounds of any theft claim than to have no theft cover at all.

Other issues under consideration at Legal & General include giving bigger dis-

counts for good levels of security.

The company will be increasing its contents premiums soon.

Jeff Kehoe, underwriting manager of household insurance at Sun Alliance, said that the company already offered excesses to policyholders as a way of reducing premiums.

It was possible to pay the first £1,000 of any claim and reduce the insurance cost. On £40,000 contents in central London the premium could be reduced that way from £600 a year to £450 a year — a 25 per cent reduction.

Eagle Star already has a £100 theft excess on its motor policies, except when the vehicle is in a garage with an activated security alarm. The maximum it will pay out on theft of stereos from cars is £500 under a fully comprehensive policy, and £250 on third party, fire and theft.

It might allow policyholders to exclude cover for burglaries or combine higher excesses with more limited cover. Accidental cover is already an option with most policies.

PEOPLE whose car or property is considered high-risk could find themselves paying hundreds of pounds more in motor and household insurance premiums this year. In some extreme cases they may not be able to get cover at all, particularly if they attempt to change insurer to get better terms.

The Association of British Insurers said this week that the average family could expect to pay £10 a month more for their insurance in the coming year, because insurers had sustained record losses. Premiums have already gone up by around 20 per cent on average over the past year, the ABI said. However, young drivers with expensive cars, homeowners whose properties are in areas with a high risk of subsidence, or inner city areas where theft is a problem, will have to pay much more.

Insurers have already raised premiums substantially this year. Norwich Union calculated that in a case where several high-risk elements combined in one policyholder, the extra monthly premium would be nearly £100 for anyone renewing after July 1. A 29-year-old man living in a four-bedroom house in London's Muswell Hill, an area where there have been subsidence problems and where there is the usual high-

Postcode perils for high-risk premium payers

er urban risk of break-ins and thefts, and who in addition drives a sporty Ford Escort XR3i, would pay £38.20 a month more for buildings insurance, £41.10 a month more for motor cover, and £13.65 more for contents cover.

Householders or motorists who are considered high risk are likely to have to fill in extra forms or try several insurers before they find cover, as well as paying higher premiums and excesses.

Contents insurance is already calculated by postcode, with possessions in inner city areas costing the most. All leading insurers now use postcodes to calculate buildings insurance, charging higher premiums for properties in subsidence or storm-prone areas. They lost £540 million on subsidence in 1991. All companies insist that some particularly risky codes be referred individually. This is the signal for a much more detailed examination of the risk involved in insuring a home in a certain

street or even a section of street.

Steve Turner, superintendent of household insurance at Sun Alliance, the largest household insurer, said that out of 2,900 postcodes, between 80 and 90 came into the "refer" category. "In some cases we may want further information. We would send out a supplementary application form, and in rare cases we may need a structural survey. There are some roads we would know are problem areas." However, "nine times out of ten, these cases will be taken on on normal terms."

Sun Alliance will charge a higher excess of £1,000 instead of £500 in high risk areas. Eagle Star takes a similar approach, but charges £2,500 to higher-risk policyholders instead of £1,000.

Eagle Star's "refer" postcodes include London codes E18, NW10, SE7, SE13, SE19 and SE21, Peterborough codes PE11 and PE17 and Edinburgh code EH15. One Scottish excep-

tion in a mostly low-risk area is Aberdeen code AB41. The company said: "There are going to be pockets of experience where we will have to refer applications. It could be that in some roads, we will not pay out at all."

Insurers say that people should not, as a rule, change companies if their area has a history of subsidence. If there were a claim, there could be a dispute between insurers as to who should take it on.

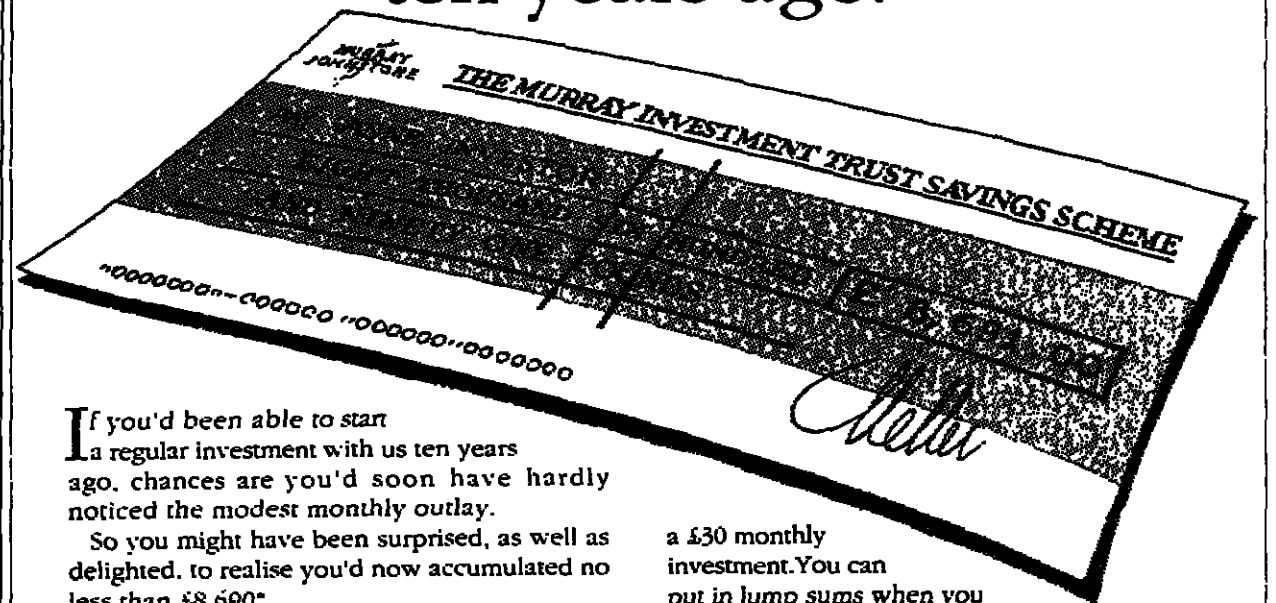
High-risk motorists looking for a new insurer will also find it difficult. Young men driving high performance cars like RS Turbos, GTIs or Ford Sierra Cosworths, may not be able to find insurance at all. Norwich Union, the largest motor insurer, will accept no new applications for insurance for the Sierra Cosworths or Lotus Carlton. Other high-risk models like Ford Sierra XR4s could be added to the list. Eagle Star will not take on anyone under 26 and will charge higher premiums or excesses to existing drivers if they have a young additional driver.

General Accident would also now decline new business from high-risk motorists. Norwich Union has increased the premium for a Sierra XR4 in Coventry by 150 per cent.

SARA MCCONNELL

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MURRAY JOHNSTONE

New groups pinpoint motor risks

ONE third of all car owners will have to pay more for their motor insurance because the model they drive has been allocated to a higher-risk category in new group ratings drawn up by the Association of British Insurers (Sara McConnell writes).

The ratings will be officially implemented on Wednesday, but insurers have been given a "window" of three months either side of this date, between April and October. A handful of companies have used the new ratings when working out premiums for this year, but others have yet to include it in their calculations. Car ratings are just one element of a calculation which would also include the age of the driver, where the car is parked, and whether it is in a locked garage.

Previously, most companies used a nine-category grading system drawn up by the ABI. Group one contained the least risky makes, and group nine the most risky. There were big differences between the groups, and insurers had to bridge the gaps with extra loadings. Now there will be 20 ratings. An estimated 3,000 models of car, including all those available since 1975, are grouped according to how tempting they are to

steal and how much they cost to repair. Assessment of repair costs used to be based on a basket of spare parts, but now specific makes of car will be considered more expensive to repair than others. If they have design characteristics such as extra front lamps or engine computers vulnerable to head-on collisions, they will be classed in a higher-risk group.

Cars whose new group number is more than double its old one will cost more to insure than before. Charles Bell, marketing analysis controller at Norwich Union, the largest motor insurer, said that moving up one group would add around 5 per cent to the premium. Ford Escort Populars, moving from group one to group three, and Ford Granada Scorpio 24V, moving from group seven to group 15, are two of the models affected.

Among the most dramatic increases in groupings are the Ford XR3i, which has moved from group five to group 13, and the Ford RS Turbo, now in group 14 from group five. Both cars are considered high risk by insurers and are difficult to find cover for.

Those whose new group number is double or less than double the old group number will not pay any more for cover

because of the car that they drive. Most models in the Renault 5 range have moved from group two to four or from group three to six. Owners of Minis will similarly either pay the same or in some cases, less. The Mini 850 SDI has stayed in group one, meaning that it has effectively halved its risk rating. The Mini Clubman has gone from group two to group three, also reducing its rating.

However, Mr Bell gave a warning that any saving motorists might make on their car's risk rating would only alleviate premium increases, and they would still almost certainly have to pay more for cover. Norwich Union's premiums have risen by up to 30 per cent for those renewing their cover in July or August.

The new ratings are being included in premiums at different times by different companies. Those receiving their renewal notices now will probably already have had them taken into account, so the large number of people who renew their policies in August, when car registrations change and when they bought their first car, will not benefit from paying their premium early.

Motorists wanting to know the group rating for a car can telephone the motor department at the ABI.

Maturely getting the best from low pressure and high income

Season of mellow fruitfulness

In the fourth of her series on financial needs at different times of life,

Liz Dolan looks at the 'empty nesters'

DIANA and Roy Jarvis are determined to continue working when they reach retirement age. Mr Jarvis says: "I know I won't feel like sleeping when I get to 65. Quite frankly, I'd be bored pottering round the garden or making model aeroplanes, or whatever it is you're supposed to do when you retire. If you have the option and feel well enough, why not? It will be worth it financially, and will keep me mentally alert."

An accountant, Mr Jarvis gave up his job with a large company to open a supermarket in rural Sussex when he reached middle age. Later, when their children, Mark and Shelley, had flown the nest, he and his wife sold up and moved to a thatched cottage in Dorset. They paid off the mortgage with money from the sale of the business, and Mr Jarvis took another job with a large company.

"Life being what it is nowadays, I was made redundant. Not a good position to be in when you're a few years off retirement." So he set up his own stock-taking business for

retailers all over the South of England. "That's why I don't have to retire. I can arrange to see two or three clients a week, and spend the rest of the time going out with Diana, doing some DIY or whatever I want."

Similarly, Mrs Jarvis, who is an artist, intends to be taking commissions well after attaining OAP status.

Because of his unconventional career path, Mr Jarvis's pension will be paid from a number of schemes, both company and self-employed.

Over the past few years, the Jarvisses have started to take an interest in the stock market. "I prefer an element of risk. It's more fun and there's the possibility of a decent gain." So, alongside privatisation stocks such as British Telecom, their portfolio also contains shares in more speculative ventures, such as mining and oil stocks, recommended by a bank manager friend.

In addition, Mr Jarvis made "a nice little turn" after investing in a friend's bus-



Making hay: Diana and Roy Jarvis under thatch in Dorset



RETIREMENT PLANNING

ness recently. "I paid £7,500 for a third of the business and got back £19,500 six months later when he sold it."

Holidays have been limited recently to short breaks in scenic parts of Britain, because of the nature of Mr Jarvis's business. However, that will change. A keen sailor with a boat moored at nearby Poole harbour, Mr Jarvis plans "more sailing in warmer waters".

FEWER than one person in five receives any sort of retirement counselling, according to Knight Williams, a company that specialises in income for the retired.

The company is one of a number of sponsors of the Retirement Trust, chaired by Lord Ennals, which will provide a free, one-hour talk on retirement planning for any group that requests it.

As well as advice on how to deal with the changing relationship with their spouses, the audience learns about fi-

nanial planning, DSS benefits, leisure, health and second careers.

Peter Stimpson, who runs similar courses for Towry Law, both for groups and on a one-to-one basis, said: "The most important first step when planning for retirement is working out a budget. We get people to estimate how much they will need, and how much they can expect to get by way of pensions, savings and so on. Then we advise on how they can maximise their income."

INVESTMENTS

PEOPLE whose children have left home, but who have not yet reached retirement age are like manna from heaven for the average investment adviser. Such "empty nesters" are traditionally perceived as those who have started to make serious money, with fewer drains on their income. This is also the age group that is most likely to inherit a useful lump sum.

In practice, of course, a number will have suffered redundancy, many have assumed financial responsibility for ageing parents, and others, usually women, are divorcees on low incomes. And people who inherit a substantial sum of money are often confused about what to

do with it. Tony Lesser, a director of Wellesley Geller, the financial management group based in London, said: "A lot of people just shove the whole lot in a building society account because they don't know what else to do with it. For a higher-rate taxpayer, particularly, this is not a good idea, because of all the interest that will be swallowed up by tax. The best solution has to be to go to an independent financial adviser." An accountant or solicitor was a good place to start because, if they did not have the facilities in-house, they should be able to put clients in touch with a good independent adviser.

The type of advice will vary but there are a few consider-

ations that will apply to everyone.

He added: "Firstly, they must make certain that their pension needs are adequately catered for. Most people of 55 do not have sufficient pension provision."

Ideally, the key for all but the smallest of sums is to maintain a good spread of investments. By this age, most people will be looking to invest in a higher proportion of low-risk vehicles than their younger counterparts.

They will also want to make full use of any available tax relief. National Savings are useful for those who need to know exactly how much they can expect at a certain date. One of the new with-profit bonds that guarantee not to use a market value adjuster on encashment may also be a good idea. Bonds subject to such adjusters do not give good value if the bond is cashed in when investment markets are bad.

Though currently in the doldrums, the stock market is traditionally the best place to make the highest gains so, once basic long and short-term security has been provided for, this should be the next port of call. Once again, stockbrokers are likely to advise a mix of lower-risk blue chip companies and riskier stocks.

DEATH DUTIES

INHERITANCE tax avoidance has enormous appeal for people who have built up a tidy asset base over the years, and see no reason why the Inland Revenue should deprive their children of it.

Tax specialists insist that people who give away enough during their lifetime — and survive long enough to escape any tax claw-back — can get away with paying nothing at all towards what are still most commonly known as death duties.

Professional advice is essential here. It is a complicated subject, with plenty of scope to create more problems than it solves. For instance, people who wish to give the whole of their estate to their children well before they die must first consider what would happen in the event of, say, one of their offspring getting divorced. It is also no longer possible for parents wishing to avoid IHT to give their home to the children. If they do so, they will have to pay a full economic rent on the property.

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Another example is the annual capital exemption of £3,000. There is also unlimited lifetime gifting, which is free of tax if the giver survives for seven years. Certain people have extra advantages. Farm owners can now benefit from 100 per cent relief if they work the land, or 50 per cent relief if they are landlords. Funds at Lloyd's should be treated as business assets with 100 per cent relief.

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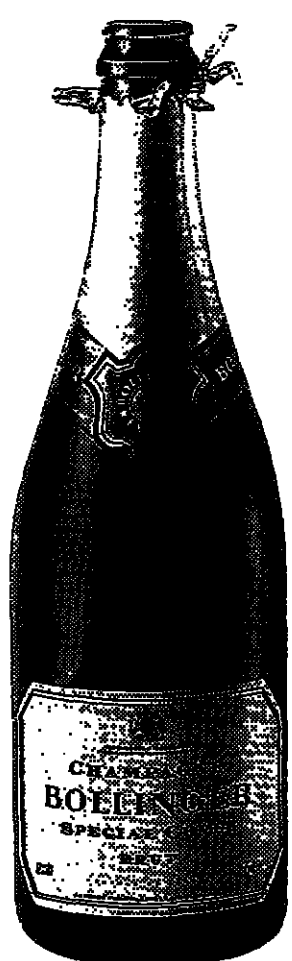
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AAM SUN ALLIANCE FUND	+39.99%	3	Irish Life Universal Secs	+28.14%	13
Growth & Sec Landbank Secs Acc	+38.73%	4	Homeowners Managed Fund 1	+27.36%	14
RH Home Managed	+37.58%	5	X Aragon 52 Euro Market Fund	+26.83%	15
Family Concentrated Growth	+33.92%	6	RH Personal Managed	+26.54%	16
Growth & Sec Flexible Finance	+30.06%	7	Providence Special Market Acc	+26.10%	17
Laureman T.L. Sec Cap	+29.36%	8	Clerical Med Man Mnd	+25.53%	18
Growth & Sec G. & S. Super	+29.30%	9	General Portfolio Perpetual	+24.87%	19
Aena Life Special	+28.40%	10	Liberty Life Managed Mnd	+24.05%	20

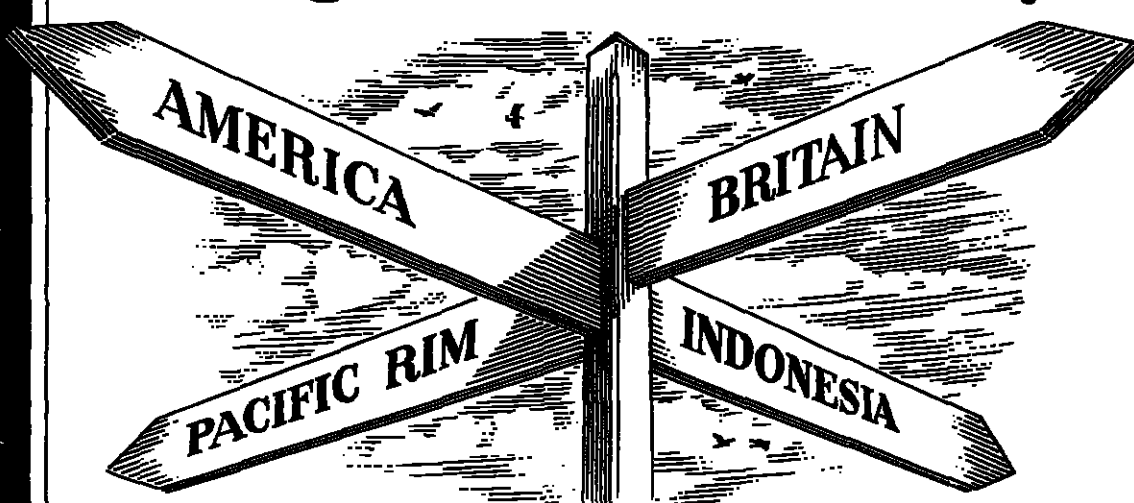
Top 20 out of 336 Managed Life Funds analysed. This table is based on bid prices and excludes the effect of any external fees. Source: Hargreaves & Hargreaves. Selection of funds is based upon the Financial Times Financial Managed Life Fund Classification plus AAM Managed Funds. * This is a bulk switching facility.



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Ombudsman acts over closed account rates

BY LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR



Consistent policy sought: Stephen Edell, the building society ombudsman

BUILDING societies paying "unduly low" rates of interest to investors with money in closed accounts were warned this week by Stephen Edell, the ombudsman, they may have to pay compensation.

Even if the societies give sufficient publicity in branches and newspaper advertisements to the rates on accounts closed to new investors, they may still fall foul of the ombudsman's scheme.

Mr Edell, who published his annual report this week, said: "We should make it clear that we feel that it is possible that the payment of unduly low interest rates on closed accounts may be held to be unfair, even if adequate publicity is given about the rates." No cases had been decided on the issue, he said.

The rates of interest paid on obsolete or closed accounts were the subject of most complaints to the ombudsman, accounting for 1,289 out of 9,325. Of these 304 became cases. Many were nationwide customers unhappy at being held in a 90-day account for 90 days at a lower rate of interest than new investors in the Bright Horizons 90-day account. Mr Edell ruled those in 90-day accounts must expect to wait for the 90 days to expire before they moved their money. But he ordered the society to make a payment to a customer in an instant access account of the difference between old and new rates.

Since the ruling in January, Nationwide has said it will allow immediate transfers on notice accounts when it re-launches similar accounts paying more. Other societies and banks, aware of investors' feelings have developed free investment helplines.

Mr Edell has not issued precise guidelines on what building societies should do to ensure they give interest rates in new and existing accounts adequate publicity. Writing to all the customers in a particular account would be too expensive he said. Brochures in branches should be prominently displayed and

should include both the interest rates on closed and new accounts. He added that he and fellow ombudsmen Jane Woodhead and Brian Murphy wanted to apply consistent policy on such complaints. "It was wrong to say once an investor had entrusted his money to a society, responsibility for ensuring it was in the investment most suitable to him lay entirely on the society. It was equally incorrect to argue societies need take no steps to provide information to investors in closed accounts. We finally took the view the correct test, which is objective, is investors must be vigilant about investments; but to enable them to make an informed choice, societies should ensure relevant information about all accounts (and in particular

about interest rates on obsolete accounts) is reasonably accessible."

The ombudsman's scheme has seen a sixfold increase in complaints referred to it since it was launched in 1987. Topping mortgage complaints in the year to March 31 were cases involving charges by societies to customers wanting to insure their properties separately.

Societies routinely charge either a one-off fee for administration or an annual fee or a combination of both to customers wanting to choose their own insurer rather than being covered by the block policies offered by societies. As buildings insurance premiums have risen steeply in areas at high risk of subsidence larger numbers of homeowners have opted to

get cheaper insurance from other companies. If the cover is similar to the policy it is offering the society cannot refuse borrowers the right to insure separately. They can levy a charge to cover the cost. Where this is above £25, the ombudsman's office requires evidence that the charge is legitimate and not a penalty.

Repossession cases doubled last year. Most of these involved disputes over the time it took for a property to be sold and the price it fetched. These cases were difficult to resolve in the current housing market. There were some cases that the office could not deal with. These were homeowners who telephoned when the bailiffs were virtually on the doorstep asking the ombudsman to intervene and stop a repossession.

CGT ALLOWANCE, MAY 1992

The indexed rise for calculating the indexation allowance on assets disposed of in May 1992.

Month purchased	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
January	—	0.886	0.804	0.527	0.447	0.383
February	—	0.879	0.537	0.515	0.442	0.387
March	0.753	0.678	0.592	0.501	0.440	0.385
April	0.719	0.653	0.571	0.470	0.426	0.368
May	0.707	0.646	0.566	0.463	0.424	0.367
June	0.702	0.642	0.562	0.460	0.424	0.367
July	0.701	0.633	0.563	0.463	0.428	0.368
August	0.701	0.626	0.549	0.459	0.424	0.364
September	0.702	0.619	0.548	0.460	0.417	0.360
October	0.693	0.613	0.536	0.457	0.415	0.354
November	0.685	0.607	0.532	0.452	0.403	0.347
December	0.688	0.603	0.533	0.450	0.398	0.348
1988	1989	1990	1991	1992		
January	0.348	0.255	0.166	0.070	0.027	
February	0.343	0.248	0.159	0.064	0.022	
March	0.338	0.240	0.147	0.060	0.018	
April	0.317	0.219	0.114	0.047	0.004	
May	0.312	0.211	0.104	0.043		
June	0.307	0.207	0.099	0.039		
July	0.306	0.206	0.099	0.041		
August	0.291	0.203	0.087	0.039		
September	0.285	0.195	0.077	0.035		
October	0.272	0.186	0.069	0.031		
November	0.266	0.176	0.072	0.027		
December	0.263	0.173	0.072	0.027		

The RI month for disposals by individuals on or after April 6, 1985 (April 1, 1985 for companies) is the month in which the allowable expenditure was incurred, or March 1982 where the expenditure was incurred before that month.

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Portfolio PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 29).

Share	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	+8	-2	+5	+3	+8		
2	+3	-4	+3	+3	+3		
3	+4	-2	+4	+2	+7		
4	+8	-2	+7	+2	+8		
5	+4	-3	+3	+2	+8		
6	+3	-3	+3	+2	+4		
7	+4	-4	+2	+5	+5		
8	+8	-2	+5	+4	+5		
9	+3	-2	+4	+1	+8		
10	+5	-5	+1	+7	+3		
11	+5	-4	+2	+5	+5		
12	+4	-3	+5	+2	+8		
13	+6	-5	+3	+5	+4		
14	+2	-3	+3	+2	+2		
15	+7	-1	+6	+3	+4		
16	+3	-3	+4	+1	+7		
17	+8	-3	+6	+3	+5		
18	+5	-4	+3	+2	+7		
19	+3	-4	+4	+3	+3		
20	+6	-2	+8	+3	+7		
21	+5	-4	+4	+1	+7		
22	+4	-4	+3	+2	+3		
23	+5	-5	+2	+6	+4		
24	+2	-5	+2	+1	+3		
25	+7	-3	+6	+3	+5		
26	+5	-2	+5	+1	+8		
27	+5	-5	+2	+5	+4		
28	+4	-5	+2	+2	+2		
29	+6	-1	+7	+2	+4		
30	+3	-4	+4	+2	+4		
31	+4	-3	+4	+1	+8		
32	+4	-4	+3	+1	+3		
33	+5	-5	+2	+5	+3		
34	+6	-3	+3	+2	+5		
35	+7	-2	+5	+4	+5		
36	+5	-3	+1	+5	+3		
37	+3	-4	+4	+2	+4		
38	+4	-6	+2	+5	+4		
39	+4	-4	+3	+1	+7		
40	+4	-6	+2	+5	+4		
41	+7	-2	+5	+2	+4		
42	+4	-2	+5	+1	+6		
43	+7	-5	+3	+6	+3		
44	+3	-3	+4	+3	+3		

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Endowment still right choice for some

RECENT cuts in mortgage rates mean that the difference between the monthly cost of an endowment and a repayment mortgage has narrowed. In some cases, endowments even appear cheaper.

For many borrowers this will mean that any further consideration of a repayment mortgage seems unnecessary, especially since there is also the possibility of a spare cash sum at the end of an endowment. But it is still very important for borrowers to compare their options carefully.

Last year, eight out of ten new mortgages were granted on an endowment basis. With this method, the borrower pays only interest on the loan, plus the premiums on an endowment policy. The endowment is designed to provide a lump sum to repay the capital at the end of the term. With a repayment mortgage, on the other hand, the monthly payments are partly interest, and partly repayment of capital.

Endowment mortgages have several attractions. Mark Hemmingway, of the Halifax Building Society, explained: "One of the major advantages of an endowment mortgage is that life insurance is automatically included, which is a great benefit to a family. It means the loan will be immediately paid off in the unhappy event of a borrower dying."

With a repayment mortgage, life cover must be purchased separately. Though it can be done easily and cheaply through a mortgage protection policy, not all borrowers bother.

Mr Hemmingway added: "An endowment also sets a fixed repayment date for a loan. It means that even when borrowers move home and perhaps take out a second policy, their first endowment will continue to build up. It should enable them to pay off a substantial part of their debt when it matures at the end of the original term. Borrowers with repayment mortgages, on the other hand, tend to restart a 25-year term every time they move, to keep costs down, so it takes them longer to clear their loan."

He also points out the sav-

Helen Pridham on the battle of the mortgage schemes

ings aspect of endowments. "Over the past 25 years, with profits endowments have produced very good returns. Though there is no guarantee these will be repeated in the future, there is every reason to expect that borrowers will be left with a valuable surplus after they have repaid their loans." He admits, however, that endowments may not be right for all borrowers.

The building societies have been accused of overselling endowments in order to boost their commission income. Most of the problems arise when endowments are surrendered early, and borrowers find they have little or nothing to show for several years' premiums.

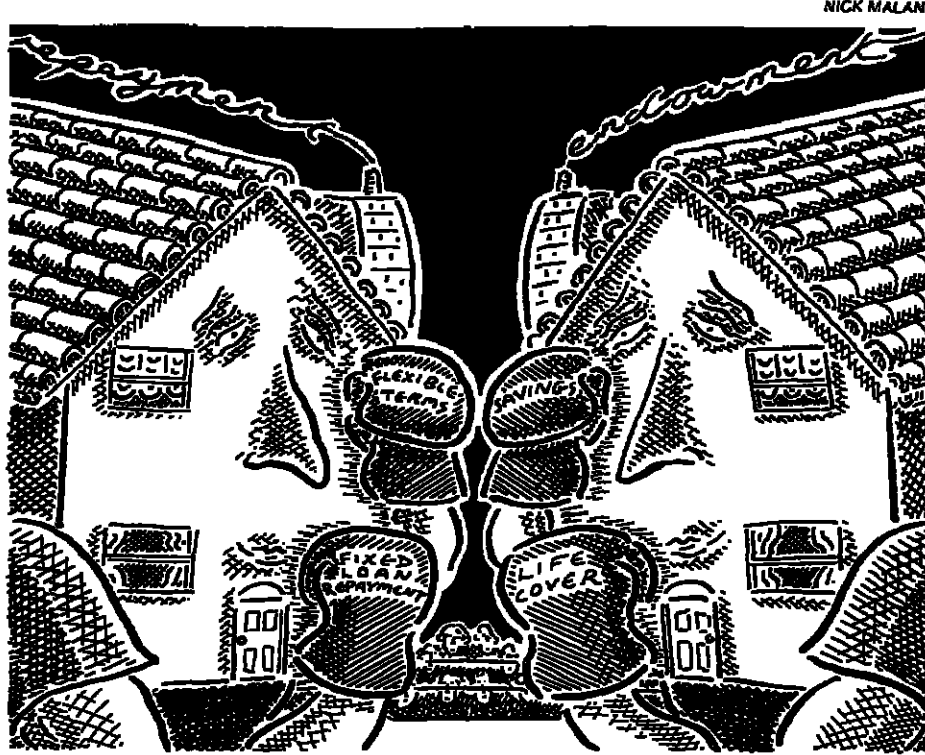
Ian Darby, of John Charcoal, the specialist mortgage broker, agrees that endowment mortgages have been oversold, but he also argues that they have been over-criticised. He said: "A single person with no dependants really does not need an endowment, or even a mortgage protection policy. For an older couple of 50-plus, the cost of

life cover is likely to make an endowment an expensive option. But for younger couples an endowment mortgage can make a lot of sense - providing life cover, savings and a financial planning tool."

He felt that most of the problems arose because endowments and the need to maintain premiums were not explained clearly enough to borrowers. "Some people are not even made aware they can use the same policy if they move house, which leads to some unnecessary surrenders." The advantage of repayment mortgages, however, is that each year a borrower can be sure that a certain amount of capital is repaid. They are also more flexible than an endowment, because the term can be varied.

To get full value for money from an endowment, you should bargain on keeping it running for the full term. Surveys have shown that even if you surrender only one year before maturity you will only get an average of 77 per cent of the maturity value.

Mr Darby suggests that second-time buyers should consider such methods of mortgage repayment as personal equity plans or pensions.



COMPARING THE COSTS OF A MORTGAGE

Couple aged 28, £50,000 advance (all figures £)

Mortgage type	Monthly payments	Amount repaid/surrender value	Cost over 25 yrs	Possible surplus	Net cost
Repayment	Yr1 353 Yr2 434 Yr3 515 Yr4 596 Yr5 677	750 1,284 1,874 2,528 3,252	129,228	-	129,228
Endowment	342 448	656 1,240 1,850 2,590	133,128	20,300	112,828

*Premiums include mortgage protection policy Source: Britannia Building Society

BRIEFINGS

□ BOTH men and women should both be able to claim a state pension at any time between the ages of 60 and 70, the National Association of Pension Funds (NAPF) said this week. Responding to the government's consultative document, *Options for Equality in the State Pension Age*, the NAPF said that there should be a sliding scale of pensions, ranging from around £43 a week at age 60 to £93 at age 70 for an unmarried person. It also suggested that the state earnings related pension scheme should be available to men and women on a sliding scale.

□ Abbey National is to extend its first-time buyer discount offer until January 31 1994. New borrowers taking out a mortgage for under 90 per cent of the value of their property will receive a 1.75 per cent discount off the variable rate. The discount is 1.25 per cent for borrowers taking out between 90 per cent and 95 per cent of the value of the property. Borrowers have to take out buildings and contents insurance through the bank.

□ A 24-hour emergency assistance service aimed at taking the stress out of homebuying has been launched by Europ Assistance. Costing £16.50 for 12 months' cover, Europ Assistance will arrange, among other things, for a replacement removal van if the arranged van does not turn up on removal day.

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Use your vote at Nationwide

From Reverend V. S. Singh

Sir, Last year Nationwide Building Society "saw" some £6 million by locking hundreds of thousands of investors into low paying accounts.

This year members can use their postal vote to try to ensure that the society is run as they wish: there is a contested election for two vacancies on the board.

Two candidates are retiring directors seeking re-election and two are candidates nominated by members.

Members of Nationwide, please vote! Yours faithfully, V. S. SINGH, Manor Cottage, Longham, Dereham, Norfolk.



GED

Too many rebuffs over the direct approach to direct debits

From R. J. Post

Sir, In common with Mr Norman Clifford (Weekend Money Letters, June 6) I like direct debits. I never miss a payment and my creditors always get their money on time. I have entered into direct debits arrangements for payment of community charge, water charges, electricity supply, telephone account, television licence, Royal Shakespeare mailing list. But the one

that I can't set up is payment of my quarterly gas bill. I note that Mr Clifford pays his gas bill by direct debit — how did he achieve it? South Eastern Gas just is not interested! Yours faithfully, R. J. POST, 86 Ormond Drive, Hampton-on-Thames, Middlesex.

From Mr Peter Hayman

Sir, Downstream, at Bristol.

Wessex Water also profess not to be able to offer a direct debit facility to cater for quarterly metered water bills (as with Severn & Trent, reported in your issue of June 6). Did they each buy the same computer package? Or is a cartel in operation? Like Mr Clifford, I am irritated by their intransigence, for exactly the same reason. Yours faithfully, PETER HAYMAN, 7 Lord Napier Place, W6

Two opposite views on commission payment

From Mr Keith Mitchell

Sir, "Investors place too much trust in salesmen..." your article states. Unfortunately, readers also believe most things they read in newspapers to be true, when in many cases their attitudes and beliefs detract from pure objectivity.

A fine example of this is your assertion that IFAs are reluctant to advise clients to invest in a building society or National Savings. You base this on the false syllogism that such advice earns no commission, IFAs are paid by commission, therefore IFAs do not give such advice.

Most IFAs of my acquaintance seek to form long-term relationships with their clients. This would not be possible if a policy of short-term optimisation were followed. We ascertain full details of their circumstances and objectives, we advise the holding of such liquid and realisable funds as may be appropriate. Equally, we rarely advise the purchase

of endowment assurance (high insurance — I should have thought you would have known the difference), since there is usually more cost-effective protection and investment available. Steps which the Financial Services Act, and Fimbra in particular have taken to uphold the integrity and impartiality of IFAs are not helped by the seemingly careless journalism of articles such as yours. Yours faithfully, KEITH MITCHELL, Alexander's independent financial advisers, 35 Regent Circus, Swindon, Wiltshire.

From Mr P. H. Stallard

Sir, Thank you for your article(s) on fees. I totally endorse and hope you will keep up the campaign. Yours faithfully, PETER H. STALLARD, Chartered insurance practitioner, Cranby Cottage, Bainton, Stamford.

French pension

From Mr Brian Shelley

Sir, As a follow-up to Mrs S. Meade's letter regarding the financial disadvantage experienced by her son upon his transfer to France.

We employ a number of British citizens in France and we pay 40 per cent of the payroll costs into the French social security system. We understand that part of this will go towards providing retirement pensions. However, if any one of our employees chooses to return to the UK, will they receive a pension, in whole or in part, from the French government upon their eventual retirement?

I would like to know if anyone has an opinion on this because we have been unable to get a clear answer.

Yours faithfully, BRIAN SHELLEY, Chief executive, ICIS-LOR Group, 6 Spring Gardens, Citadel Place, Tinworth Street, SE11.

Golden illusion

From H. Dinerstein

Sir, Dave Smith (Weekend Money Letters June 13) thinks that the Co-operative Gold Visa Card is the best card that it is possible to have.

I have no doubt his statement is true, but having spoken to numerous people who, like myself and my son, applied for a gold card and were refused, how does one obtain one?

It so happens that almost without exception, we all settle our bills on time. Perhaps Mr Smith would care to comment on this as, to my knowledge, not one of the refused applicants was given any satisfactory reason for refusal.

In my case, having been solvent for 30 years in business and being offered numerous loans from all sides (including my bank) why should I be refused by a third rate card company? Yours faithfully, H. DINERSTEIN, 6 Windermere Avenue, N3.

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Lloyds HICA	6.50%	7.00%*

INTEREST RATES ROUNDOFF

Normal rate	Compounded at 25% 40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
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BANKS	Ordinary Dep A/c	Typical	2.5%	2.5%	2.1%	none/none	7 day	
Fixed Term Deposits:								
Barclays	6.5%	6.5%	5.4%	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-442 1587		
Lloyds	6.5%	6.5%	5.4%	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-442 1587		
Midland	6.5%	6.5%	5.1%	10,000-25,000	3 mth	0742 528855		
NetWest	6.5%	6.5%	4.7%	10,000-25,000	3 mth	071-725 1000		

HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS

Bank of Scotland NMAC	6.4%	6.4%	5.3%	2,500	none	031-442 7777
Prime A/c	5.7%	5.7%	4.7%	2,500	none	0804 252801
Co-operative Ultra	1.5%	1.5%	1.2%	1,000	none	071 628 8543
Globebank	4.8%	4.8%	3.5%	1,000	none	051 988 2076
Lloyds HICA	1.5%	1.5%	1.2%	1,000	none	0272 433372
Midland HICA	4.4%	4.4%	3.5%	2,000	none	0742 528855
NetWest Special Reserve	4.5%	4.5%	3.5%	500	none	0800 200 400
Royal Bank of Scotland A/c	5.4%	5.4%	4.4%	2,500	none	071-555 8255
TSB Bank HICA	4.2%	4.2%	3.4%	2,000	none	071-600 8000

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Cheltenham & Gl	7.2%	7.2%	6.2%	2,500 min	Postal	
Yorkshire Bldg	7.2%	7.2%	6.1%	40,000 min	30 day	
Bradford & Bldg	6.1%	6.1%	5.5%	25,000 min	90 day	
Best buy — all soccs:						
The Scarborough	7.2%	7.2%	6.2%	1,000 min	Postal	
Horwath Rock	6.1%	6.1%	5.5%	40,000 min	30 day	
St Pancras	6.1%	6.1%	5.4%	50,000 min	60 day	
Teuchters	6.1%	6.1%	5.5%	1,000 min	90 day	
Bradford & Bldg	6.1%	6.1%	5.5%	30,000 min	1 year	

Cash/Cheque Accounts:

Halifax	1.9%	2.0%	1.8%	50 min	Flates rise
Midland & Lloyds	2.4%	2.4%	1.9%	25 min	with larger
Cash Plus	1.8%	1.8%	1.5%	1 min	balances

Compiled by Chase de Vere Moneyline — call 071 404 5788 for further details

NATIONAL SAVINGS

Ordinary A/c	6.0%	6.3%	5.0%	5-10,000	8 day	071-648-4555
Investment A/c	6.0%	6.3%	5.1%	5-25,000	1 mth	071-648-4555
Income Bond	9.2%	9.4%	5.5%	2,000-50,000	3 mth	0253 69181
Depository Bond	6.5%	6.9%	6.4%	10,000	3 mth	071-648-4555
STN Income Cert	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	25-7,500	6 day	091-385 4500
Fixed Plan	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	20-400/mth	14 day	091-385 4500
Children's Bond	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	100-100,000	8 days	071-648-4555
Govt Est Bond	10.7%	10.7%	8.4%			

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Liberty Life	6.4%	6.4%	7.0%	25,000 min	3 yrs	Vera
Prudential Assurance	6.2%	6.2%	7.1%	5,000 min	4 yrs	071 404 5788
Aviva Life	6.4%	6.4%	7.1%	50,000 min	5 yrs	for details

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Compiled by KAREN BUCKLEY

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THE TIMES SATURDAY JUNE 27 1992

YACHTING
Richards
looking
for break

[illegible]

Australia stunned by storming rugby league performance in Melbourne

Britain revel in rain to level series

Australia 10
Great Britain 33FROM KEITH MACKLIN
IN MELBOURNE

AS 8,000 British rugby league supporters sang and danced on the pitch at Prince's Park here, Garry Schofield, the British captain who defied a hamstring injury to play, said: "This is the greatest moment of my life. There is no prouder man in Australia than I am tonight." The 23-point margin equalled their highest against Australia.

Schofield spoke for every British player, supporter and official, particularly those whose memories go back through 22 years of disappointment since the last series victory by Great Britain, in 1970 in Australia. Britain levelled the series at 1-1 and put their defeat in Sydney behind them as, on a rainy Melbourne night, they swept remarkably into a 22-0 half-time lead, survived a rocky 18 minutes as the Australians came back strongly to score ten points, and finished stunningly with two fine late tries.

However Malcolm Reilly, the coach, sounded a note of caution as the teams prepare for the deciding international at Brisbane on Friday. "The job is only half done. It has to be completed next Friday. The Australians again had a powerful physical presence out there, but we showed that physical power can be beaten by skill, total commitment and team spirit."

The cautionary note was echoed by the Australian coach, Bobby Fulton, who said, with some justification, that the weather had contributed to his side's defeat. "Melbourne was made for the British. We did not adapt well to the wet conditions. We spilled the ball ten times out of 19 times in possession while the British lost it only four times in 25. We got our game together in the second half, but full credit to them, they finished stronger."

While the conditions may



On top down under McGinty, of Great Britain, covers Jackson, of Australia, in Melbourne yesterday

have contributed to two of the Great Britain tries, this was a convincing and dramatic win, despite the lapses in concentration and handling early in the second half. Magnificent tackling and shrewd deep kicking by Steadman shook the Australians.

Eastwood kicked two early penalty goals to start the first-half flourish and three tries followed before half-time. Clarke dummied his way over, then Edwards put in a kick and, as defenders floundered

behind the Australian line, Offiah and Newlove pounced and Newlove got the touch. With the Australians staggered, Schofield put in another shrewd kick and, as Edginghouse turned and slipped, Schofield dived for the try. Eastwood completed five goals.

The backwash was expected. After Schofield had dropped a goal, British confidence was shaken as Langer began to find the gaps. Lindner crashed over, then Johns raced past

hesitant tackles to score a second try, and a Meninga goal made it 10-23.

Britain, though, came back splendidly in the last eight minutes. Steadman crowning a fine defensive and kicking performance with a try and Schofield sending in Offiah. Eastwood kicked six out of seven goals. A rousing finale was well and truly set up.

SCORERS: Australia: Three: Lindner, Johns, Goal: Meninga. Great Britain: Three: Clarke, Newlove, Schofield. Steadman. Offiah. Goals: Eastwood (5). Dropped goal: Schofield.

AUSTRALIA: A Edginghouse (Goal); R Whelan (Stewarts, sub: C Johns, Brisbane), L Daley (Canberra), M Meninga (Canberra, capt), M Newlove (Brisbane), J Jackson (Norths, sub: K Walters, Brisbane), A Langer (Brisbane), D Gleeson (Wests), S Walters (Canberra), P Harrop (Newcastle, sub: B Macdonald, St George), P Sironen (Brisbane, sub: G Lazarus, Brisbane), R Lindner (Wests), B Clyde (Canberra).

GREAT BRITAIN: G Steadman (Castleford), P Eastwood (Hull), P Newlove (Fleetwood), R Jones (sub: G Connolly, St Helens), D Powell (Sheffield Eagles, sub: J Lydon, Wigan), M Offiah (Wigan), J Schofield (Leeds, capt), S Edmonds (Wigan), K Sherrin (Wigan, sub: K Harrison, Leeds), D Bennett (Wigan), A Platt (Wigan), D Bates (Wigan), W McNary (Wigan, sub: P Hulme, Wigan), P Clarke (Wigan).

Referee: D Hale (New Zealand).

Where one small error can leave ambitions in ruins

The prize of Olympic places will bring the best out of athletes at the trials this weekend, Roger Black says



For the majority of athletes the Olympic trials, which take place this weekend in Birmingham, are what they have been focusing on and training for over the last few months. By Monday morning the team for Barcelona will have been selected but between now and then the battle for places should prove to be exciting both for competitors and spectators alike.

Championship trials are a completely different challenge for the athlete compared with the numerous one-off races that take place throughout the season. There are no second chances and any small mistake or loss of concentration will be taken advantage of by fellow competitors. This is athletics at its best. Past performances mean very little and all that counts is how you perform on the day.

A maximum of three athletes can be selected in each event, so long as they have achieved the Olympic standard. The first Briton home at the trials automatically gains one of those places; the other two are decided by the panel of selectors, with a good performance at the trials probably swinging the vote. I feel that I have performed well enough this season to merit one of the selected places in the 400 metres and have thus decided to run the 200 metres at the trials.

I enjoy racing the shorter distance but rarely get the opportunity to do so against the world's best because I am simply not fast enough to

command a lane on the European circuit. Therefore the opportunity to run against the likes of John Regis and Linford Christie is something that I can only benefit from; it is very different from running the 400 metres but sheer speed is an area that I do need to work on if my 400 metres times are to get faster.

Another reason for not running the 400 metres is that I should make the race more honest. I am not assuming that I would have won but it would be fair to say that my absence now gives the other athletes a definite opportunity to top class competition in the event has become very competitive this year. New challengers like Mark Richardson, David Grindley and Du'Aine Ledaga are posing a real threat to the likes of myself and Derek Redmond and although I should be concentrating on the 200 metres tomorrow, I shall be paying great attention to what goes on in the 400.

I lost two years of my athletic career because of injury and since then have continually endeavoured to stay healthy, prevention being the sensible way forward. The body is fragile and can break down at any moment, especially when

it is asked to endure more than it is physically capable of. For the last two weeks I have been suffering from a hamstring injury, which has not helped in my preparation for the Olympic Games. Fortunately the problem has been correctly diagnosed and treated but it has been a testing time and also a reminder of how even the best laid plans often have to be adjusted.

Being injured can be used positively since it makes one appreciate the times when the body is a hundred per cent and running smoothly. I found this when returning to top class competition in 1990 and have subsequently enjoyed the sport more, which has also been reflected in my performances on the tracks. Although I would never wish injury on anybody, a short time out of action forces one to ask many questions. The answers can give the individual a better understanding about what athletics means to him or her, resulting in a greater incentive to return to competition with a healthier body and mind.

At this weekend's Olympic trials it will be those who are fit in body and mind who will come back with personal bests and Olympic places.

Sanderson getting set to join her fifth Olympic gold rush

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

LINFORD Christie may be a bet for an Olympic medal this summer, and he seems to have a point that age is not his foe, but he would have to keep running until he was 44 to match the record which Tessa Sanderson should set around lunchtime today. Sanderson, aged 36, is poised to become the first British Olympic champion in 1984, she said yesterday: "I am hopeful I can get a medal. Experience in Olympic competition is on my side."

Unless Daley Thompson's request for decathlon selection, though he does not have the qualifying mark, is successful, Sanderson will be the last link with Britain's golden Eighties, which brought triumphs for Wells, Coe, Ovett, Sanderson and Thompson. Unlike Thompson, who has not completed a decathlon for four years and who has been injured recently, Sanderson has been glowing with health. Thompson had been planning a last-ditch attempt in

Germany this weekend but has withdrawn and written to the selectors asking to be considered for the Olympics.

In four competitions, she has thrown her javelin more than 60 metres each time. Her best of 64.66 metres ranks her sixth in the world and clear of the next Briton, Olympic champion in 1984, she said yesterday: "I am hopeful I can get a medal. Experience in Olympic competition is on my side."

So is her experience in the women's national championships, which serve this weekend as the Panasonic British Olympic trials. She has won the title eight times, the first of them 17 years ago. It is with some justification that she is asked to be scheduled to perform before the crowd turns up.

Victory would guarantee Sanderson her Olympic place.

but anyone wanting to see this piece of history being made will need to be seated by 11.30am. First-day spectators at Birmingham's Alexander Stadium will see another 12 finals.

The best should be the men's 100 metres and 5,000 metres. Because Christie, now 32, was well into his twenties before he knuckled down to training, he missed the 1984 Olympics; Seoul, in 1988, brought silver in his first Olympics and in his second he is chasing gold.

There is no possibility of him coming to grief in the trials as Carl Lewis, his conqueror in Seoul, did last weekend. Even if he false-started, and was disqualified, Christie is assured of one of the two places allocated at the selectors' discretion.

While Christie may not get to five Olympics, three may be on. Yesterday he talked of his plans for 1994: "I want to go on and defend my European and Commonwealth titles," he said.

As well as the 100 metres today, he will run the 200 metres tomorrow and is planning to double in Barcelona. Every one of Britain's nine European champions will be competing.

Crossing London yesterday, my taxi-driver said that he was fed up with watching pace-makers, not like the good old White City days when he used to attend a large number of their inclusion if they could help to bring the thrill of world records and, anyway, pace-makers are not normally used in Olympic trials.

So it was surprising to discover that the 5,000 metres, which contains an ample number of athletes who possess the Olympic qualifying time, should include the Kenyan pacemaker, Anthony Kiprono.

John Maycock and John Nuttall, whose fast finishes would have benefited from a tactical race, might be stretched to match Jack Buckner in a paced effort. But they should not be permitted in an Olympic trial, when a fast race is not needed to aid qualifying times. Why are taxi drivers always so clever?

YACHTING

Richards looking for break

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

THE promise of light, fickle winds could dash hopes of any record-breaking passages in the annual Round the Island race today. The event, in its 56th year, has attracted 1,439 crews who will gather in the Solent, off Cowes, for the first start at 7.30am in the hope of completing the 55-mile course before dusk.

Among the front-runners hoping for a break in conditions is Jo Richards, sailing the 30ft lake catamaran, Full Pelt. Another is Mike Slade, who returns with his 80ft Ocean Leopard, which set a record for monohulls of 5hr 55min last year.

The outright record of 3hr 55min goes back six years when Mike Whipp and Rodney Pattison, sailing the 60ft trimaran, Paragon, enjoyed almost perfect conditions. Pattison, Britain's most successful Olympic yachtsman, returns this year with his F27 multihull, Supertri of Poole.

If the winds do not hold, then the Island Sailing Club organisers have plans to finish the race off Bembridge, a contingency that has had to be invoked only once before.

Impulse, Eric Draxton's top scorer in the British trials for the Rolex Commodore's Cup until disqualification ruled her out of the team, is to spearhead a rival challenge representing the Channel Islands. Her team-mates are Don Wood's former Admiral's Cup yacht, Red Source, and Warlord, a J39 production racer/cruiser campaigned by Philip Tolhurst.

Mary Falk, sailing the 35ft monohull, Q11, was within 300 miles of Newport last night and is poised to be the first woman finisher in the Europe 1 single-handed transatlantic race.

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BOXING

Challenger unlikely to spoil Eubank's last title defence

FROM SRUKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT
IN QUINTA DO LAGO, PORTUGAL

CHRIS Eubank makes his last defence as World Boxing Organisation (WBO) super-middleweight champion when he faces Ron Essett, of the United States, here on the Algarve tonight. The man next in line to face him is Nigel Benn, the mandatory challenger. But Eubank has ruled out that contest by asking for £1.6 million.

The WBO, which has told him he must make up his mind by June 28 about defending against Benn, has now given him another 30 days to think over the matter. The extension, however, means little to Eubank, who does not intend to give Benn a return simply to satisfy the curiosity of punters. "I think about how much money I require, not about glory or how I am regarded as a fighter."

However, having been invited to the Buckingham Palace garden party on July 9, he intends to hold on to his title to attend the function as champion.

This will be Eubank's eighth title bout in 19 months and he vows to carry on boxing for two more years if necessary to make his million. It is unlikely that Essett will upset his plans.

The American was specially picked by Eubank. The two first met two years ago when they were Herol Graham's sparring partners, although

TALE OF TAPE

Essett	Age	Eubank
28	25	
12st 0lb	12st 0lb	
5ft 11in	5ft 10in	
70in	73in	
44in	42in	
44in	44in	
32in	32in	
13in	13in	
10in	10in	

Essett: 28 (15 inside distance) wins, 4 defeats, 2 draws.
Eubank: 31 wins (18 inside distance), no defeats.

Eubank did not see Essett in action. Seeing that Graham was such a slippery boxer, Essett did not spar with him.

This time, Eubank and Essett meet in the car park of the 72-hole golf complex here. A fir tree had to be cut down to make room for the ring and customers.

Essett, who challenged un-



Eubank hitting harder

successfully twice for WBO and World Boxing Council titles, does not quite know how he is going to tackle Eubank. "He is undefeated, so how could anyone tell you how to beat him or what strategy to use? But I am glad he has given me the opportunity. I think I have got a chance."

Essett will have Mickey Duff, who has a share in him, in his corner, but Duff, too, might not be of much help as he has always said Eubank "does not make too many mistakes".

Eubank, however, is prepared for Essett. He has studied him on video. "I know Essett can fight. He's a hard man and a pressure fighter. But I am not afraid of pressure fighters. If they come to me that's good."

This year, Eubank said he had been working on improving his big punch. "I have been concentrating on dynamite," he said. "I have been studying leverage and have developed a punch 75 per cent harder than the one that knocked out Jarvis [his last opponent] in April."

If Essett runs into Eubank's fists, as Jarvis did, he will fall like the old fir tree.

The Cardiff super-middleweight, Nicky Piper, has had his challenge for the World Boxing Council international title against Hunter Clay, of Nigeria, postponed three weeks to July 24.

Clay successfully requested more time to prepare for the bout, which takes place at the Star Leisure centre in Cardiff.

BASKETBALL

Scot who put the team first

FROM NICHOLAS HARLING
IN BADAJOZ, SPAIN

ONE Englishman's reluctance to join the Great Britain team competing in the Olympic qualifying tournament here has brought immense satisfaction for the only Scot in the squad which narrowly failed to advance to the next qualifying phase in Zaragoza.

No one could understand Kenny Scott's rejection of the latest chance of an international honour to come his way, least of all Iain Maclean who, none the less, was quick to step in at short notice.

If Maclean, 6ft 5in tall, was not in Kevin Cadell's first choice squad of 12 he could hardly complain in any case because of the work commitment that had stopped him training and play as much as he and Britain wanted.

What did matter was the opportunity to accept the late invitation to appear on the big stage. Maclean's wife had booked them a holiday in Turkey but not paid the deposit. Instead of a plane to Istanbul, Maclean joined Ken Johnstone, the Scottish Basketball Association's technical director, as head of Britain's delegation, on a lengthy journey here.

"I had to decide there and then that I wanted to be part of it," Maclean said. "I would have hated to have thought in three weeks' time, say, that I had passed up this opportunity."

RUGBY UNION: TOURING SIDE FACES NEW ZEALANDERS WITH CONFIDENCE IN B INTERNATIONAL

Barnes urges England to adopt considered approach

FROM DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT
IN HAMILTON

THE bare statistic of 35 tries and 206 points from five matches, against three tries conceded, suggests that England B will go into the first of their two internationals against a New Zealand XV at Rugby Park here tomorrow confident of victory. The statistics, though, while not a damned lie, disguise the whole truth.

If England are to win — and, given the advantage of three weeks together on tour, their prospects should be good

— they need to produce a more controlled, consistent performance than they have yet achieved in five victories. The pace and aggression of second and third-division opponents has caught them, Stuart Barnes says, on the hop.

England have found themselves pushed sideways by opponents whose tackling leaves little to be desired and whose ability to regroup in numbers has forced a serious reconsideration of the overall tactical approach. If they have reached Hamilton unbeaten, it is primarily because they have a considerable physical advantage over most oppo-

nents and great pace on the wings.

Along with the tactical switch is the hesitation induced by differing legal interpretation. There have been clear cases of forwards arriving at breakdowns and being uncertain what the match official will permit them to do.

Hence the statement of intent from Barnes, the tour captain, after all 30 players had trained at the nearby Taupiri club yesterday, that having tried to experiment in the earlier tour games, England would revert to the tactics that earned four wins out of four in Europe this year.

"We'll be looking for a game where, although we can play at 100 miles an hour if it is needed — and our strikes revolve around high-pace rugby — we slow things down and take the sting out of the other side," Barnes said.

This is the traditional considered game which English sides notoriously prefer leavened by the dash which such players as Underwood, Hunter and de Glanville can offer.

Back and Bayfield, of the forwards, have been uniformly outstanding and David Baldwin, the Sale lock aged 26, has come from a long way back to claim deservedly a

place alongside Bayfield. But they will be opposed by a team of considerable experience and prompted by a notably lively pair of half backs in Crabb, one of three local heroes, and Stenness.

They also have a brief to entertain, but Barnes believes there are defensive weaknesses to be explored in the New Zealand side but to do that, England must first dominate the ball and that, on this tour, has been a weakness.

Meanwhile, New Zealand has given senior-international status to games against Western Samoa, who made such an impact on last year's World

Cup. The Samoans will conclude a seven-match tour of New Zealand next year with their first international against the All Blacks, in Auckland on July 25.

NEW ZEALAND XV: G Cooper (Otago), E Rait (North Harbour), S Pearce (North Harbour), M Barry (Waikato-Bay of Plenty), T Tagata (North Harbour), L Stenness (North Harbour), S Crabb (Waikato), M Allen (Taranaki), W Gulland (Waikato), capt, P Collins (King Country), G Taylor (North Harbour), S Gordon (Waikato), C Trueman (Wellington), D Seymour (Canterbury), R Turner (North Harbour), ENGLAND XV: I Hunter (Northampton), S Hackney (Leicester), P de Glanville (Gloucester), D Hopley (Worcester), A Kitchener (Leicester), G Baldwin (Northampton), G Dawes (Gloucester), V Ugochi (Bath), M Greenwood (Nottingham), D Baldwin (Sale), M Bayfield (Northampton), N Black (Leicester), B Clarke (Bath). Referee: J MacLachlan (Otago).

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Pasadena tipped to stage 1994 final

United States keeps its World Cup promises intact

BY CLIVE WHITE

WHILE sceptics may have seen the selection of Orlando among the nine venues to stage the 1994 World Cup as confirmation of some of their worst fears, traditionalists can rest assured that this is not going to be a Mickey Mouse tournament.

With more than two years to go to the big kick-off, Americans are gearing themselves up in a manner that has one believing the glib prophecy of Alan Rothberg, the lawyer who heads World Cup USA '94, this is going to be "the greatest World Cup in history".

Just how he evaluates greatness, of course, is another matter. But if the quality of football that is to be played in the lap of the gods — or the coaches — the presentation and organisation can at least be relied upon to be of the highest order.

A media tour to five of the nine sites revealed that "our game" was in safe hands after

initial scares. "Our tremendous responsibility is that we do nothing to impede the integrity of the game," Hank Steinbrecher, the general secretary of United States Soccer, said. As an example of such, there is to be no interruptions to the games by commercials.

The Americans have not been slow to make financial gains when and where they can in a World Cup which will reap a bonanza beyond anyone's wildest dreams, private enterprise in the United States having just woken up to the fact that four times as many people watched the 1990 World Cup final in Italy as last year's Super Bowl.

The choice of Orlando is a prime example of American opportunism. It had been assumed that Miami, with its football background and state-of-the-art Joe Robbie stadium, would be made one of the three Southern locations, but the conflicting expansion of its baseball

programme caused it to be overlooked in favour of the home of Disney World with its obvious tourist appeal.

Another site, Washington, has the magnificent Robert F. Kennedy stadium, a centre on a par with the best in Europe. The Republic of Ireland played there last month. Hopes that an even bigger and better facility might be erected collapsed in April when Jack Kent Cooke, a local entrepreneur, changed his mind about building it.

Washington is planning a seven-month long festival heading up to the finals, but even its enthusiasm pales besides that of Dallas, a hotbed of football for many years and whose Dallas Cup competition attracts youth teams from all over the world. Rothberg makes no attempt to hide his admiration for the city, which has applied to stage the opening match and the final in the superbly appointed Cotton Bowl.

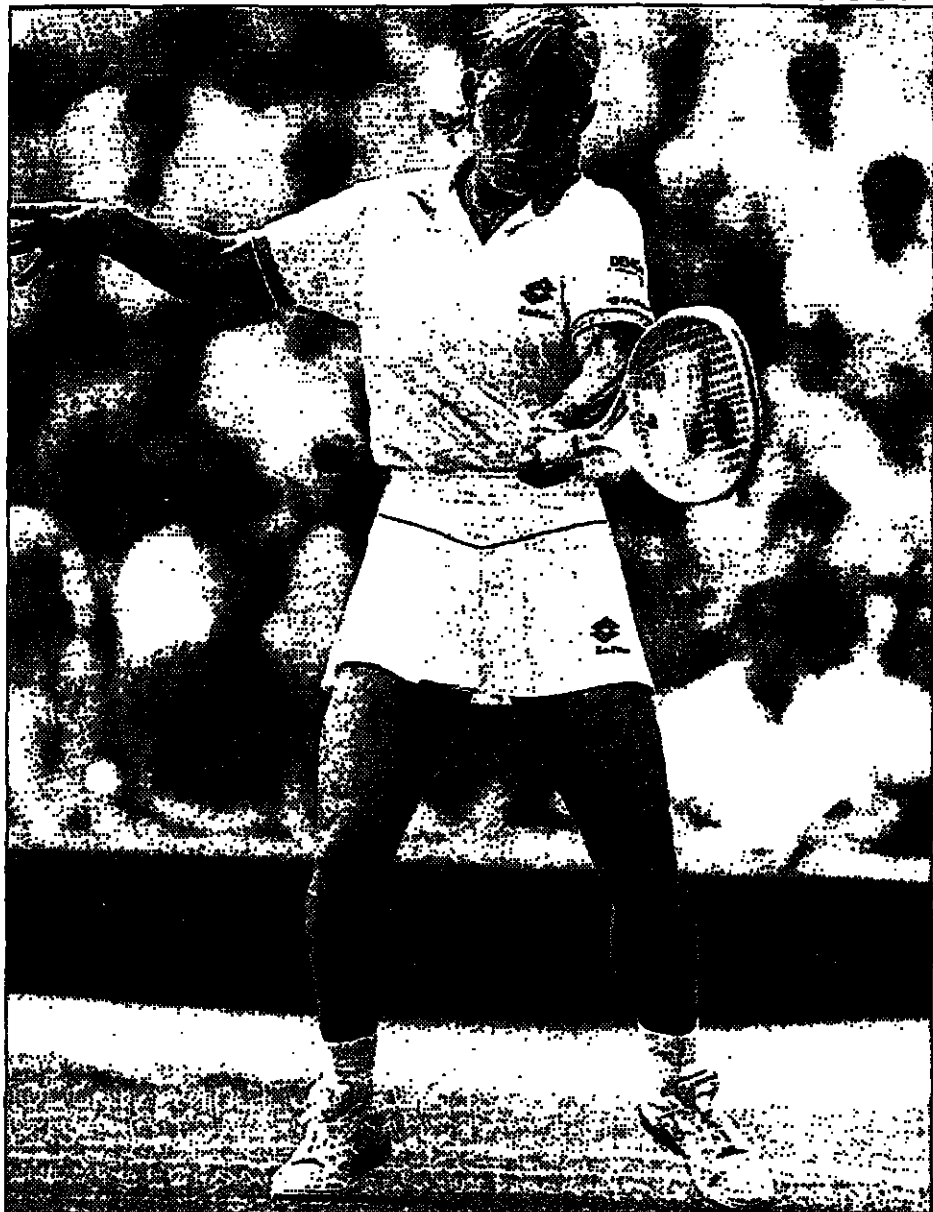
However, when the venue for the final is announced on Monday, Dallas is likely to be disappointed. The indications are that the Pasadena Rose Bowl, in California, the site of four Super Bowls and setting for the 1984 Olympic football final in front of 100,000 spectators, will stage the climax to the tournament, the third-place play-off, plus one of the semi-finals.

The other semi-final will be in the Meadowlands Stadium, New York, and the opening match at Soldier Field, Chicago.

That the next World Cup finals will be staged in a manner befitting the world's greatest single sports competition has never seriously been doubted. It is the property in the game after 1994, and therefore its ability to raise itself to even greater heights, which remain open to question.

It must be to the great regret of FIFA and those Americans genuinely concerned with the game's development in the United States that a new professional outdoor league will not be put in place until a year after the finals are over and, dare one say, forgotten.

Gradual development, as Rothberg admits, is the secret to success this time around, which may explain why the Japanese are setting up their league ten years before they hope to stage the competition.



Balanced approach: Navratilova returns on the way to a 7-5, 6-1 victory over Rittner in the third-round match on court one yesterday. Report, page 36

Fernandez falls from grace

BY ALIX RAMSAY

THE green environment of the centre court proved less than friendly for the No. 7 seed, Mary Joe Fernandez, yesterday as she stumbled out of the championships. 6-3, 6-3 to Amy Frazier, of the United States.

The two baseliners were busy trading blows in the first set, with Fernandez marginally ahead on points, when she fell in the seventh game, landing heavily on her right leg and arm. She managed to complete the game, and lose it, before asking for an injury time-out.

After applying much leg flexing and some heavy strapping to her right thigh, Fernandez was ready to continue

but was never really back in the match.

The first set came and went to Frazier, and Fernandez looked as if she knew her time was up. She rallied briefly in the second set but by that time it was too late, already two breaks down. Frazier proved too high a mountain to climb with a gammy leg.

Julie Halard continued her run on the grass. Having beaten Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, she faced Helena Sukova, who knows all about the art of serve and volley and the vagaries of a natural surface.

At first Halard looked doomed. Sukova raced to a 3-0 lead while the Frenchwoman's main defence, her fierce ground strokes, were failing to find their mark. But, taking the second set as a fresh start, Halard suddenly found her range. She began to read Sukova's service and polish it off with some stunning returns.

Forcing the third set, Halard tried but still Sukova could not find a way past and Halard hung on to win 4-6, 6-1, 6-3.

Gigi Fernandez had the simplest of wins over Claudia Porwik, of Germany, cruising through to the third round, 6-2, 6-0. Porwik was not enjoying herself at all, while Fernandez hardly worked up a sweat.

FOOTBALL

Invest in grounds minister urges

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE national heritage minister David Mellor last night called on the Premier League clubs to invest their £304-million TV contract cash in ground improvements — and not fuel the transfer market.

And he made it clear that, "exceptional circumstances" apart, only the handful of Premier clubs that have not so far applied for a Taylor-related grant will be allowed access to future government cash.

Most of the big clubs have already been promised financial help towards the cost of transforming their grounds into all-seater stadia before the August 1994 deadline.

It was feared that those who had not done so — they include Everton, Southampton, Ipswich and Middlesbrough — would miss out altogether.

But Mellor has agreed with Lord Aberdare, chairman of the Football Trust, that those clubs should, in principle, still be allowed to claim up to £2million each from money made available by the reduction in Pool Betting Duty.

The government released £100m over five years, and Liverpool and Coventry are among clubs who have successfully claimed the maximum grant. Many others have been allocated smaller amounts, but their chances of further cash from the Trust are not good.

In a letter to Lord Aberdare, Mellor makes it clear that the trust should apply a "needs and resources test fairly and firmly".

And he says that "it is important to encourage the Premier League to use its additional income to assist in Taylor implementation and to improve the quality of our top grounds rather than to fuel the transfer market for example."

Future Trust money should be concentrated on smaller clubs which need most help to implement Taylor.

That could change lower echelons no longer need to go all-seater. Mellor has already announced a fresh inquiry.

TENNIS

Few plaudits for fine points in the power game

BY ALIX RAMSAY

THE match between Goran Ivanisevic, of Croatia, and Marc Rosset, of Switzerland, at Wimbledon yesterday was a showdown between the big guns of men's tennis. Ivanisevic, who won 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, served 22 aces and Rosset 15. Rallies were few and far between. It was indeed high-speed stuff.

On the fast grass surface of Wimbledon, the power game has taken over. More powerful rackets and more powerful players have combined to make much of men's tennis more like a game of pinball than one of skill.

Rosset could only get a racket to half of Ivanisevic's serves and make it count. For the rest, he was left to stand and stare.

Ivanisevic, at 6ft 4in tall, has every advantage for the modern game. His height helps him generate more speed on his serve, his racket helps him find more power, and the grass gives him extra pace. Add to that a large dose of natural talent and he is a frightening opponent.

But, in the view of some of the players, it is not the best way for the game to develop. Mark Woodforde, of Australia, watched 34 aces flash by him when he lost to Ivanisevic in the second round.

As he looked forward to the prospect of Ivanisevic taking on the equally tall Rosset, he was less than ecstatic. "There are plenty of other matches I think I would prefer to see. Two of the biggest servers in the tournament — it is not going to be an interesting match." It was not.

Even Ivanisevic realises the flaws in the power game, especially for the spectators. "It's tough to enjoy that tennis; there is not a lot of enjoyment," he said. "You don't have a lot of great matches on grass and if big servers like me and Rosset play, there's no point, you just play. I just want to win, it doesn't matter if it is nice or bad or great."

The days of the great touch-players appear to be over. McEnroe is a popular and sentimental throwback to the days of artistry and grace — and, for that matter, wooden rackets — and it is an age Rosset regrets to see pass.

"If I could play like McEnroe or Cash on grass, I'd like that, but for me it is easier just to serve because I can't move like Cash."

In his heyday, Ivan Lendl was one of the hardest hitters in the game but he also liked to exercise his mind with the intellectual challenge of tennis.

Unfortunately, there isn't so much of it now with the power," he said. "On clay you can see the point being worked but on grass you just try to watch the ball and try and guess where it is going."

Meanwhile, Ivanisevic has handed out a warning to any cannon fodder thrust in his path. "I am going to come to court and give my best and try to serve 40 aces if I can." □ The South African, Stefan Kruger, was fined \$1,000 for racket abuse yesterday after he lost in straight sets to Wally Masur and Mark Kratzmann, of Australia, in the second round of the men's doubles with Glenn Layendecker on Thursday.

□ British tennis, still celebrating Jeremy Bates's stirring progress, received another boost yesterday when Andrew Castle and Chris Wilkinson were gifted places in the men's singles at the Olympic Games in Barcelona.

Castle, aged 28, and Wilkinson, 22, were knocked out of the final round of the Olympic qualifying tournament in Norway last month. But the withdrawal of two players from the Games allowed the Britons, who were top of the "lucky loser" list, to be named as replacements. Castle and Wilkinson are already in the doubles draw in Spain. Bates, the British No. 1, said he did not want to be considered.

Sara Gomer and Monique Javer have automatically qualified for the Olympics on the strength of their world rankings, while Sam Smith and Clare Wood are Britain's representatives in the women's doubles.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS FROM WIMBLEDON

Men's singles

Winner £265,000
Runner-up £132,500
Holder: M Stich (Ger)

Third round

G IVANISEVIC (Cro) bt M Rosset (Swi), 7-6, 6-4, 6-4
H HOLM (Swe) bt A VOLKOV (Cis), 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5
M STICH (Ger) bt M Larsson (Swe), 6-4, 6-1, 6-3
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W Masur (Aus) bt G BILBERT (US), 6-3, 6-7, 6-4, 6-2
I LENDL (Cz) bt S Stolle (Aus), 6-3, 1-6, 2-6, 6-3, 7-5
S EDEBERG (Swe) bt G Stafford (SA), 6-1, 6-0, 6-2

Men's doubles

Winners £108,500
Runners-up £54,250
Holder: L Savchenko and N Zvereva (USSR)

First round

L McNEIL (US) and R P STUBBS (Aus) bt T A Harper (US) and C Macgregor (US), 6-2, 6-4
G FERNANDEZ (US) and N ZVEREVA (Cis) bt S A Bowes and T S Whillinger (US), 6-2, 6-1
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Second round

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First round

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

PETERBOROUGH: Road race (6 miles). 1. P Kirkwood (Ken), 27min 55sec; 2. W Masur (Aus), 28min 03sec; 3. P Davies-Hale (Can), 28min 15sec.

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Chicago Cubs 9, New York Mets 2; San Diego Padres 8, San Francisco Giants 0; Los Angeles Dodgers 8, Houston Astros 5. AMERICAN LEAGUE: Milwaukee Brewers 1, Baltimore Orioles 0; New York Yankees 4, Kansas City Royals 3; Oakland A's 5, Minnesota Twins 1; Texas Rangers 5, Detroit Tigers 2; Seattle Mariners 13, California Angels 4.

BOWLS

WESTON-SUPER-MARE: Open singles fifth round: R Marks bt M

SATURDAY JUNE 27 1992

Thundering servers rule day at Wimbledon

Lendl finds his instinct for survival in time

By ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENTSimon Barnes, page 1
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Fernandez bows out, page 35

ANOTHER old-timer stole the limelight at Wimbledon yesterday. Ivan Lendl taking a leaf out of John McEnroe's book by coming from behind to beat an Australian. But, otherwise, on a day dominated by the resounding thud of hammer on anvil, there were precious few echoes of the previous day.

The intricacies of McEnroe and Pat Cash, who between them served a total of 13 aces in just over four hours during their epic second-round match, were replaced by the more predictable patterns of grass-court tennis. Aces abounded, break points were like gold dust and the big servers predominated.

Lendl served 21 in his narrow 6-3, 1-6, 2-6, 6-3, 7-5 victory over Sandon Stolle, and Goran Ivanisevic and Marc Rosset shared 37 in the battle of the titans on court 14. The one exception to the rule of brawn over brain was Richard Krajicek, who would not win a popularity contest in the women's quarters after his suggestion on Dutch radio that "80 out of the top 100 women were fat pigs". He later reduced the proportion to 75 per cent, but might expect a rough reception were he ever to play mixed doubles.

The thought of the storm to come might have affected the No. 11 seed's state of mind because he never seemed entirely convincing in his five-set defeat by Arnaud Boetsch. Krajicek, a semi-finalist at the Australian Open, is 6ft 5in tall, with a strangely boyish face atop a frame which would have survived the Great Trek, and the message from the brain — which Martina Navratilova, for one, might question even existed — takes a little longer to reach the outer limits of the body.

DETAILS

WEATHER FORECAST: Mostly dry with long sunny periods.
TELEVISION: BBC1 22.10-23.10 (highlights), BBC2 15.00-20.00 (live coverage).
RADIO: Radio 5 12.00-19.30 (five coverage).
ATTENDANCE: Fourth day: 33,246 — an increase of 8,542 on last year but below the fourth-day record of 38,640 in 1988.

than most. That extra split second makes him look awkward at times, his movement to the net being more juggernaut than Mini-Cooper.

If — and, often, it is a big "if" — you can get hold of his serve, he can be vulnerable. At least, that was the theory the nippy Frenchman was working on. For the connoisseurs of the serve-and-volley game, the first three sets were made in heaven. When a rally developed, which was not often, Boetsch came out mostly on top because he makes up for his lack of power with inventive strokework. More often, he was stranded, waiting for a chance to hit back.

He did not break Krajicek until the start of the fifth set, but had left off enough scraps in two tie-breaks to stay level. "Geani", he cried out once as another serve whistled past him. But, having weathered the early storm, he turned slyer in the fifth set as Krajicek, who was slowed by a knee injury after a fall in the fourth set, began to lose heart. The Dutchman does not yet believe he can play well on grass and the lack of confidence showed at the death. Neatly and with increasing panache, Boetsch reached the fourth round for the first time at Wimbledon, winning 4-6, 7-6, 3-6, 7-6, 6-2.

"It is very difficult to keep your concentration when the match is just serve, serve, serve the whole time," the Frenchman said. "It's very

boring. There is no game. But I'm pleased with the way I kept going and concentrated on my own game."

Midway through the fourth set, few would have given a prayer for Lendl's chances of surviving to his seeded position in the last 16. A service return which was still rising as it cleared the scoreboard summed up the No. 10 seed's lack of timing. There was no bite, no aggression, no spring in the step, no heart and, if Stolle, ranked 96, had but realised it and raised his game a fraction, he would have taken a notable scalp and, quite possibly, ended Lendl's obsession once and for all.

But enough of the former world No. 1's instinct remained to take a chance when it was on offer and, having won just two games in two sets, he broke with a backhand return, a rare gem these days, and levelled the match with two aces.

Thus reprimanded, Lendl found a vein of form that has largely eluded him during a miserable year full of defeat. The serve clicked into gear — he lost just one point in four service games during the middle of the fifth set — and Stolle began to understand that his chance had disappeared. With one perfect service return game, vintage mid-1980s, he broke to lead 6-5 and served out smartly to earn the dubious privilege of a rendezvous with Goran Ivanisevic.

While the rights and wrongs of equal prize-money were being discussed, Stefan Edberg and Pete Sampras did the men's cause little good by dropping just six games between them. The Swede beat a South African qualifier, Grant Stafford, 6-1, 6-0, 6-2, the same score by which the Sampras, the No. 5 seed, outplayed Scott Davis. "I played flawless tennis," Sampras said.

An air of inevitability settled over centre court once Michael Stich, the defending champion, had tucked away the first set. His opponent, Magnus Larsson, is more at home on slower surfaces and had beaten the German on clay in Munich. "That was a few months ago and had no relevance to what happens here," Stich said.

Once ahead, the No. 3 seed soon had his mind on next week. "I am playing better percentage tennis than last year," Stich said after his 6-4, 6-1, 6-3 victory. "It's not as risky. But it's a nice feeling to be through to the second week. There are fewer players in the locker-room for a start."

Edberg, the No. 2 seed, now meets his countryman, Henrik Holm, who surprised Alex Volkov in four sets. Holm is a qualifier and has a mother called Gun. It was appropriate enough that, on a day of bombardment, the ultimate accolade should go to a true son of a gun.

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The battle of the big servers



Firing line: Rosset, left, and Ivanisevic matched their considerable serving power against one another at Wimbledon yesterday with Ivanisevic coming out on top of the high-altitude big guns



IAN STEWART

Aces high in the power game

By REX BELLAMY

WE HAD a press-room sweep at Wimbledon yesterday. The idea was to forecast the number of aces served in the clash of arms between Goran Ivanisevic and Marc Rosset (combined height, 12ft 9in). The total was a miserly 37, mainly because Rosset — whose service has been timed at 134mph — spent too much time finding the range and, whenever he did, kept losing it. Something wrong with the sights, no doubt. Ivanisevic won the third-round match, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Ivanisevic, aged 20, is ten months the younger. The Croatian left-hander advanced to the semi-finals in 1990 and this time is seeded to lose a round earlier. Rosset is a shambling Swiss Alp whose altitude brings to mind Dolly Parton's naughty joke that she was the only young lady from the Snowy Mountains to take them with her. A basketball coach might regard Rosset as stunted. But he is the kind of chap who, when someone a foot shorter asks if he plays basketball, can bounce back with: "No. Do you play miniature golf?"

It was appropriate that Rosset should play on the edge of Aorangi Park because Aorangi ("Cloud Piercer") is the Maori name for Mount Cook. Yesterday, the clouds were low. Rosset always looked troubled. He did serve 15 aces, but he also served ten double faults and threw in half a dozen foot faults. By contrast, Ivanisevic's tally of 22 aces was marred by only four double faults.

The crowd enjoyed the fun

FASTEST SERVES

THE technology used to measure the speed of serve at Wimbledon is much the same as that used by the traffic police to monitor the speed of cars. A radar head is mounted on the wall at each end of the centre court behind the centre line, about seven feet off the ground. It is programmed to detect only moving objects the size of a tennis ball so the racket does not interfere with the reading. As the beam hits the ball, it is reflected back to the radar head; the speed with which the beam is reflected determines the speed of the serve. The radar gun has been

used at Wimbledon since last year and it is used only on the centre court. So far the fastest serve recorded is the 134mph by Marc Rosset.

Fastest serves on centre court

Men
1. M Stich (Ger), 130mph; 2. G Ivanisevic (Croatia) and P Sampras (US), 129mph; 4. G Camporese (It), 124mph; P Kuhnert (Ger), 124mph; 6. B Becker (Ger), 123mph and I Lendl (Cz), 123mph; 8. P Cash (Aus), 119mph; 9. J Elmer (Neth), 118mph; 10. S Pascosello (It), 117mph.
Women
1. M Seles (Yug), 107mph; 2. S Graf (Ger), 106mph; 3. M Navratilova (US), 104mph; 4. S Appelmann (Bel), 97mph; M Maleeva (Bul), 97mph; N van Lottum (Fr), 97mph.

sponse when Jack Kramer asked his opinion of Californian wine, which was of questionable quality in those distant days. "Jack," Chatrier said, "I can't find the words..."

Disrespectful though it might be (both men do their thing awfully well), it was easy to imagine Ivanisevic and Rosset felling trees with axes or ringing the bell at one of those fairground strength machines.

After John McEnroe's performance on Thursday evening, this match was like shifting from lyric poetry to basic English. Never mind. In its own way, the match was richly entertaining.

What it boiled down to was getting the bombs on target as often as possible and making the most of fleeting chances to return service. Ivanisevic was slightly the better at both. Rosset had chances late in the first set and early in the third and delighted the public when one of his aces clattered into the scoreboard and knocked off the set scores.

Ivanisevic is aware that in some ways there are two tournaments here. "I've won this week," he said. "Now I have to win next week."

Scots to form an elite league

By CLIVE WHITE

LESS than two months before the start of the Premier League in England, the five leading clubs in Scotland yesterday gave notice of their intention to resign from the Scottish League and set up their own super league, to begin in 1994-5.

While their letters of resignation were being delivered, Rangers, Celtic, Aberdeen, Dundee United and Heart of Midlothian convened a press conference in Glasgow to outline their proposals for the new league, intended to replace the existing premier division. They hope that three more clubs will join them to enable a 28-match programme to be played.

Wallace Mercer, the Hearts chairman, said: "This is the most radical and far reaching set of proposals ever put forward in an effort to improve Scottish football. No one is in any doubt all five clubs are committed to the earliest possible formation of the Scottish super league."

One of the main recommendations is the introduction of a British Cup to be contested by the top five clubs in the new league and the top 11 in the Premier League.

Ken Friar, the Arsenal chief executive, believes the idea has "great appeal" but questions that room could be found in the fixture list in a 22-club Premier League.

Among the Scottish proposals is more live television coverage and the discouragement of negative play by awarding three points for an away win.

Ray McKinnon, the Dundee United and Scotland under-21 midfielder player, yesterday joined Nottingham Forest for £750,000. Chris Waddle, the former England international, has signed for Sheffield Wednesday in a £1 million move from Middlesbrough, the French champions.

Africans debate pull-out

Gothenburg: A decision on South Africa's participation in next month's Olympic Games in Barcelona is likely to be taken this weekend (David Miller writes). Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress, has been invited to attend a meeting of African heads of state in Dakar, Senegal, where the issue will be discussed.

Together with Mandela in Dakar will be Kebe M'Baye, the IOC vice-president, who headed the special commission that recommended South Africa's return to the Olympic fold. He will be accompanied by Sekou Kidane, the IOC's adviser to the United Nations.

Bobang Phiri won the 400 metres at the African track and field championships in Mauritius and became the first black South African to win a gold medal on his country's official return to international athletics.

Scots leap into the unknown

British ski jumping has just completed the biggest leap in its history. There are now serious plans afoot for a ski jumping centre in this country, and Lothian and Edinburgh Enterprise Limited are stumping up a hefty sum of money for a feasibility study. The plan is for two jumps, of 20 and 40 metres. The bold young leapers would slide to their destiny on an artificial surface manufactured in Finland. It is impervious to ice, and can be used summer and winter.

It would stand at Hillend in Edinburgh, where there has been a dry ski run since 1964. There are hopes to win formal planning permission for the scheme by March next year.

One possible planning objection to the scheme is "visual intrusion", which is

planning for sticking out. The feasibility study will spend a lot of ink minimising such intrusion. Tim Ashburner, of the British Ski Federation and the father of British ski jumping, said: "In many lovely cities like Oslo, Innsbruck, Garmisch and Ljubljana, the lofty ski jump structures on the city perimeters are symbols of communal pride — a statement to the visitors who gaze in awe at the narrow tracks leading to the heavens. They are a statement that local youth has the heart for the ultimate challenge." Well, I would sooner look out over a ski jump than a multi-story block housing a finance company, if it comes to that.

Fourth write

Postscript on the European football championship: A. Ray writes to me: "Mr Graham Taylor is outstanding. Not only did he take a fourth division team to the first division, but he took one to Sweden as well."



SIMON BARNES ON SATURDAY

□ One of the more cheering things about this year's Derby was the gracious behaviour of Ron McAnally, former trainer of the winner, Dr Devios. It was he who suggested the horse leave the United States to join an English trainer and have a tilt at

the Derby. Not only did he show up at Epsom, but he was full of delight about the success of his former charge and rounded things off by giving the Queen a hearty pat on the back. "I meant no disrespect," he said. "The Queen just seemed like a very nice person who loved horse racing."

Slave trade

Here is an idea for people who have not decided what to do on their holidays: enlist as a galley slave. The Trireme Trust is short of 50 slaves for sea-trials of its reconstruction of a triple-rowing galley of the fourth century BC. The trials begin off the Greek island of Poros in late July. A week of training will be followed by a week-long voyage. Anyone interested should ring Rosie Randolph on 0491 612411.



Barely enough

Toni Jeffs, a New Zealand Olympic swimmer, is sponsored by a strip club called Tiffany's. Not everybody is happy about this. In fact, she has been ignored by the rest of the New Zealand swimming team. Those with natty things like corporate sponsorship have left New Zealand to hone their talents in the United States before the Games. Jeffs was languishing at home, wondering if she was going to be able to go to Barcelona at all. But once again, Tiffany's has come to the rescue. Jeffs' coach, David Wright, said: "We were a few thousand dollars short, so Tiffany's have undertaken to put on a special event next week, with all the proceeds going to Toni." Further information on Jeffs: she has a kiwi tattooed on her upper thigh.

Tangled roots

Evonne Goolagong — hard even now to think of her as Mrs Cawley — has been 17

years a Floridian. It is the sort of no-place to which tennis players seem to gravitate. Now Cawley, twice a Wimbledon singles champion and forever the most graceful thing seen on the centre court, has returned to Australia and immersed herself in Aboriginal history. She plans a film and a book and a thorough exploration of her Aboriginal roots.

She had a Damascus Road experience with a rather pointed welcome home gift from a cousin: it was a book titled *Blood on the Wattle: Massacres and Maltreatment of Australian Aborigines since 1788* by Bruce Elders. "I was in a daze for about a week. I could hardly say anything. Why wasn't I taught this at an early age? I felt my identity had been taken from me." Indeed, Australia's record on race is one of the world's best-kept secrets: it is now Cawley's ambition to exalt the Aboriginal people.

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WEEKEND TIMES

SATURDAY JUNE 27 1992

PASSPORT TO

FRANCE

PAGES 7, 10, 15

The appeal of brass bands is spreading south. On the eve of National Music Day, William Greaves joins the fans to sound out why

THE excitement had been mounting since their coach arrived in the square a few minutes earlier. Among the thousands of men, women and children lining the precipitous little streets of Dobcross, in the foothills of the Pennines, the word spread faster than the tastiest gossip. "The Purples are here," they said, and even those who had been patiently awaiting service from the bar staff at The Swan abandoned their place in the queue and swarmed towards the door.

And now here they came, marching down Platt Lane, those awesome purple uniforms aligned with military precision and 25 instruments honed into a single voice. The applause was instantaneous. The Brighouse and Rastrick Band was back in town. And suddenly all was well with the world.

It was 10pm, and for the last five hours about 100 brass bands had been hurrying around 19 separate village contests in Saddleworth and Tameside, where the Pennines meet Greater Manchester. None was too famous to compete and none too humble to be accepted. It was a night of merriment and madness, a monument to parochial eccentricity and, above all, a testimony to the undying love affair between the people of northern England and the bands which sprang from the kernel of their cultural and industrial heritage.

Even though the police had closed many of the roads in the neighbourhood to allow the coaches right of passage, the night was not long enough to allow every band to reach all the contests. It was unthinkable, of course, that the beloved B and R would miss out Dobcross but, as the clock ticked away towards the closing hour, the unthinkable was a possibility.

No one need have worried. "I began playing at Delph, up the road, when I was nine; a lot of the lads started in these parts," said Ian Dust, the secretary and tenor horn with the Brighouse and Rastrick. "There's no way we'd miss out our last four stops at Greenfield, Uppermill, Dobcross and Delph."

HIS eyes glazed. "There must have been 4,000 out for us at Greenfield; we were near choking with emotion."

Since 1815, when a group of workmates at the Yorkshire textile firm of John Foster and Sons formed the Black Dyke Mills Band, the unique sound of brass has compounded its way into the bloodstream of England's industrial north — and is coursing towards places as distant as Cornwall and mainland Europe.

Brass bands today are as plentiful, and as fervently supported, as they were in the aftermath of the Industrial Revolution, when brass instruments were easier to play by the rough hands of honest toil. Now that many of the mills, collieries and factories which spawned them have disappeared, their survival is regarded by many as an historical anachronism.

But to think of brass bands as belonging to a musical genre, in the way that pop, rock, jazz, or classical music are genres, is to miss the point of their appeal. Because their only definitive limitation is one of instrumental format rather than output, they can span that spectrum within a single night's repertoire. Maurice Murphy of the London Symphony Orchestra, one of the country's leading classical trumpeters, learnt his craft with Black Dyke Mills. At the less highbrow end of the scale, the B and R version of "The Floral Dance" was at number two in the pop charts for seven weeks in 1977, kept off the top only by Paul



Sounds of summer in the park: guided by the conductor's baton, a euphonium, its wide and shiny bell reflecting the pastoral scene, adds its big, softly sonorous voice to that of its smaller colleagues

Tunes of glory

McCartney's "Mull of Kintyre". The factor which makes "banding" unique to its followers is that it is more a competitive sport than an aesthetic diversion. With its band clubs, supporters' clubs, transfer market, youth policies, unofficial league tables and the degree of local patriotism it engenders, its true place in community life is far closer to the football field than it is to the concert hall.

For Bob Platt, 14 years a solo cornet player with the B and R and, at the age of 72, one of the most respected characters wherever bandsmen meet, the choice he had to make as a teenager exemplifies that analogy. "I suppose I ought to have been a footballer, because I was really quite good at it," he says. "But my father was bandmaster at Dobcross and I decided on banding because I thought it would last me longer. There was no thought of trying to do both, of course. I first played with the Dobcross Band when I was eight and by the time I had played in my first contest three years later I knew I had made a lifetime's commitment. I've never regretted it where else could I have found such companionship?"

Glancing around the room at the Navigation pub at Uppermill, it was hard to disagree with that judgment. With four hours to go before the first notes were struck in the Whit Friday contests — for more than 100 years the biggest and most colourful pageant in the brass band calendar and one which this year would bring more than 60,000 fans out on the streets of its 19 village venues — we were foregathered for lunch and a pint or two. Bandsmen past and present chattered in animated nostalgia and every inch of the walls

was given over to a photographic art gallery devoted to their common passion. Kevin Wadsworth, who was the youngest player ever to be accepted by the Black Dyke Mills Band in its 177-year history when he joined it just after his fourteenth birthday in 1966 — "my father used to play me to sleep with his euphonium, so I never stood a chance of doing anything else" — guided me round the gallery.

"Here's Major Peter Parks. What a man he was. He was musical director of the Grenadier Guards when Fosters brought him to Black Dyke as professional conductor in 1968. At his first few

rehearsals all he said was 'good, that's good, yes, that was fine'. It was me who went up to him and said: 'Excuse me, sir, but we know we're good, all we want you to do is tell us when we're not.' As a military man he had never been spoken to like that, and yet he took it from a snotty 16-year-old and turned us into the greatest band of the 1970s. During those years we won the National Championship four years in succession and the British Open five on the trot.

"And over here, this whole alcove is a shrine to Harry Mortimer, a cornet player with Black Dyke before joining the BBC, starting the

British Open championships and becoming known throughout the world as Mr Brass Bands. The Mortimer family was to us what the Kennedys are to America. Harry's brother, Alex, was musical director of the Manchester CWS band, and their father, Fred Mortimer, was doyen of the Foden Band of the 1920s and 1930s."

Such family dynasties are more the rule than the exception in banding. When Brian Evans, who is popularly regarded as the country's finest exponent of the E-flat solo soprano cornet, joined the Chadderton Band at the age of eight, for instance, it was scarcely

coincidental that his uncle was cornet player, his father drum major and his grandfather chairman of the band.

Eight years after that early debut, Mr Evans moved on to a band at Barton Hall, Eccles, and then came under the wing of Alex Mortimer at the Manchester CWS. "They were geniuses, those Mortimer brothers," he recalls. "Just by being there, they brought things out of you you never knew you had."

From then on, with moves to the Fairley Aviation works band, the B and R and finally the Black Dyke (which, together with Grimethorpe Colliery, Britannia and Desford Colliery, form the country's top six), Mr Evans' career demonstrated another facet of banding: a "transfer market" in which top players are courted and poached by rivals.

It was time for battle to commence, and at 5pm I was locked into a curtained caravan at Greenfield, from which the adjudicator, Kevin Wadsworth, would be able to hear — but not see to identify — each of 50 or so bands over the next six hours.

Over the past year the village had raised prize money of £1,375, £375 of which would go to the night's overall winners, and at the sound of his whistle Mr Wadsworth began scribbling his notes as the first band struck up with a march called "Oldham Rifle Brigade".

"Good bass sound, well controlled. They're good," he whispered. "But slightly more strength from the solo clarinet might help." After thought, he awarded them 180 marks out of 200 and whistled up band number two, which was to play "Ravenswood" by William Rimmer who, alongside George Allan, was the most prolific writer

of brass band music. "Good, solid start with a very slight looseness in the front row at phrase ends — that's the solo corners," Mr Wadsworth judged.

I left him to his lonely vigil and hurried to Dobcross. It was 7.25pm when Grimethorpe Colliery arrived and the crowds rushed to Church Fields to hear them play their contest piece, "Knight Templar", under the baton of conductor Garry Cutt. "Last year we had three firsts, three seconds and two thirds," Mr Cutt said. "Four years ago Fairley Aviation won ten firsts — an all-time record — and pocketed over £3,000 for a night's work."

After travelling with Grimethorpe as they did their best to woo the judges at Uppermill and Greenfield, it was back to Dobcross to catch the B and R make its triumphant entry. And half an hour later, as the Purples waited to play their ninth and final performance of the night outside the Swan at Delph, the conductor, Les Bevers, described the discipline that keeps the northern bands on top. "Good players should never be happy unless they are taking a bit of stick from the likes of me," he said.

"WE SPEND three full rehearsals perfecting every contest piece we play. Southern bands can never understand how you can spend six hours on just 100 bars of music, but when just half a point can be the difference between winning and losing everything has got to be as tight as a drum."

And despite their concert and recording income, when a single corner and horn costs £900 and £1,500 respectively, and thousands of pounds have just had to be found for the first set of new uniforms since 1946, winning can be vitally important to survival for B and R, the only top band not to have works status or commercial sponsorship — even though, like all brass band members, the players are entirely amateur.

In the event, it was Fairley Aviation and Grimethorpe who were the stars of the night, with four firsts each, followed by the B and R with three. Despite the adjudicators' blind judging, the top names had pulled it off again.

In their hands, and fed from the excellence generated within myriad local and junior bands, the future of a great north country tradition seems to confirm the optimism of one of its most famous tunes, "Hail Smiling Morn".

How they build the big band sound



Brass cheeked effort: a member of the Dobcross village band, Lancashire

ALTHOUGH brass bands can perform concerts with any combination of instruments they choose, for contests they must adhere to the same strict formation:

- 9 B-flat cornets
- 1 E-flat soprano cornet
- 1 flugelhorn
- 3 tenor horns
- 2 baritone horns
- 2 euphoniums
- 2 tenor trombones
- 1 bass trombone
- 2 B-flat tubas
- 2 E-flat tubas

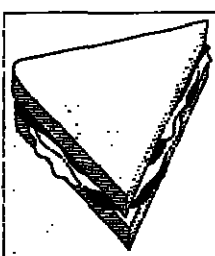
While marching, the band may also use one or two percussion instruments.

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 3



Starting today, a weekly round-up of the best rock, jazz and classical music releases from the leading Times critics

FOOD AND DRINK, PAGE 6



Trade secrets and buttery badinage from the cutting edge of the catering trade: the Sandwich Bar of the Year

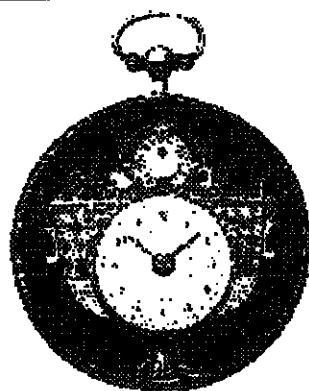
OUT OF TOWN, PAGE 9



Where to take a walk on the child side as the map and compass set limber up for tomorrow's Family Rambling Day

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Our London sale of Good Clocks, Watches & Wristwatches on 4th June was 85% sold. Timepieces in good condition, by important makers, with rare or precision movements did well, and antique pocket watches, in particular, achieved good prices.



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FILM

THE ADJUSTER (18): Aeon. Egoism's usual tale of voyeurism, fantasy and displaced persons, visually seductive but not so much. With Elias Koteas, Arlene Kucharz. Metro (071-437 0757).

AUTOBUS (18): Funny moments in Eric Rohmer's story of a schoolboy who rejects a French youth who rejects a school bus to impress his girlfriend. MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096).

MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561).

Renoir (071-837 8402).



Tim Robbins with Greta Scacchi in *The Player*

BASIC INSTINCT (18): San Francisco detective Michael Douglas and ice-pick murder suspect Sharon Stone ride a sordid psychosexual rollercoaster. Director, Paul Verhoeven. MGM Baker Street (071-935 9772) MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Odeon Kensington (0426 915683) Mezzanine (0426 915683) Plaza (071-497 9999) UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

EUROPA, EUROPA (15): Jewish boy saves his life by posing as an Aryan German. Decent if superficial rendition of a true wartime story from writer-director Agnieszka Holland. Barbican (071-638 8891). Odeon Kensington (0426 914666) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772).

THE FIVE HEARTBEATS (15): Bland but good-natured tale of a black rock 'n' roll group's American journey. Robert Townsend writes, directs, and stars with Michael Wright. Prince Charles (071-437 8181).

GLADIATOR (15): Tawdry, predictable tale of teenaged pugilist on Chicago's South Side. James Marshall, Cuba Gooding Jr, director, Rowdy Herrington. Odeon Kensington (0426 914666) West End (0426 915574) UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE (15): Psychoic nanny (Rebecca De Mornay) wreaks revenge on a squeaky-clean family. Formula thriller with robust acting. Annabella Sciorra, director, Curtis Hanson. MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Odeon Mezzanine (0426 915683) UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

HEAR MY SONG (15): Promoter seeks reclusive Irish tenor Josef Locke, wanted in Britain for tax evasion. Shaggy dog tale with modest pleasures. Starring Ned Beatty, Adrian Dunbar, director, Peter Chelom. MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310).

HOWARDS END (PG): Absorbing version of E.M. Forster's novel about two colliding families with different ideals. With Anthony Hopkins, Emma Thompson, Helena Bonham-Carter. Director, James Ivory. Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865) Curzon Phoenix (071-240 9661).

JOHNNY SUDE (18): Likeable urban fairy tale about a lone innocent (Brad Pitt) in bedlam, discovering love while dreaming hopelessly of success as a pop star. Tom DiCillo directs. Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) Chelsea (071-351 3742/3743) Gate (071-777 4043) Lumiere (071-836 0691) MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310).

LADYBIRDS (PG): Dermal vehicle for pop-eyed comic Rodney Dangerfield, put in charge of a girl's soccer team. Director, Sidney J. Furie. MGM Haymarket (071-839 1527).

MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310).

THE ALCHMIST (18): David Bradley and Jonathan Hyde nimbly conning the town in Sam Mendes's very funny production of Jonson's satire. Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, Mon, Tues, 7.30pm, mat today, 2pm.

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN: Ariel Dorfman's scorching psychological drama on the longing for revenge. Geraldine James and Paul Freeman now join Michael Byrne. Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-636 5122). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm.

DEATH: Jimmy Porter 36 years on. Osborne's hero rants and whinges but in a vacuum, and Peter Egan seems too good-natured to be the Angry Old Man. Comedy. Pantons Street, SW1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm.

EUROPEANS: Hilarious satire on Eurobureaucracy by Fringe First winners Talking Pictures, directed by Stephen Daldry. Waterside Arts Centre, 40 High Street, Brentford (081-568 1176). Wed-Sat, 8pm.

GRAND HOTEL: New York hit musical based on the 1930s film and Vicki Baum's novel. With Liliane Montevecchi. Dominion, Tottenham Court

THE LAWNMOWER MAN (15): Pierce Brosnan's computers turn a simpleton gardener (Jeff Fahey) into a cyber-monster. New technology jamboree laid low by a muddled script. From a Stephen King story; director, Brett Leonard. Camden Parkway (071-267 7036) MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) Odeon Kensington (0426 914666) Mezzanine (0426 915683) UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

THE LONG DAY CLOSING (12): Terence Davies's powerful evocation of childhood's lost paradise. With Leigh McCormack, Marjorie Yates, and a wonderful aural collage of British Britain. Curzon West End (071-439 4805).

THE LOVER (18): Jean-Jacques Annaud's over-careful, faithfully erotic adaptation of Marguerite Yourcenar's autobiographical novella about an adolescent girl's discovery of sex and love in Twenties colonial Indo-China. Barbican (071-638 8891) MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) MGM Haymarket (071-839 1527) MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-434 0031) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

PARADISE: French box-office success. Le Grand Chemin, remade as sentimental rural Americana. A small boy helps repair Melanie Griffith's crumbling marriage. Writer-director, Mary Agnes Donoghue. MGM Haymarket (071-839 1527) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Odeon Kensington (0426 914666) UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

THE PLAYBOYS (12): Love and jealousy in an Irish village in 1957. Strong performances (Albert Finney, Robin Wright, Aidan Quinn), but too much blame. Director, Gillies MacKinnon. Camden Parkway (071-267 7036) MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) Nottingham Hill Cinema (071-727 6705) Odeon Haymarket (0426 915353) Odeon Kensington (0426 914666).

THE PLAYER (15): Dazzling satire on Hollywood, directed by Robert Altman from Michael Tolkin's novel. Tim Robbins as the studio executive who kills a writer, plus cameo galore. Odeon Leicester Square (0426 915683) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3366) UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

PLAN GOGH (12): Maurice Pialat's mastery, no-nonsense portrait of the painter's last months. Fine performance from singer-turned-actor Jacques Dutronc. Minerva (071-235 4225) Renoir (071-837 8402).

THEATRE

LONDON

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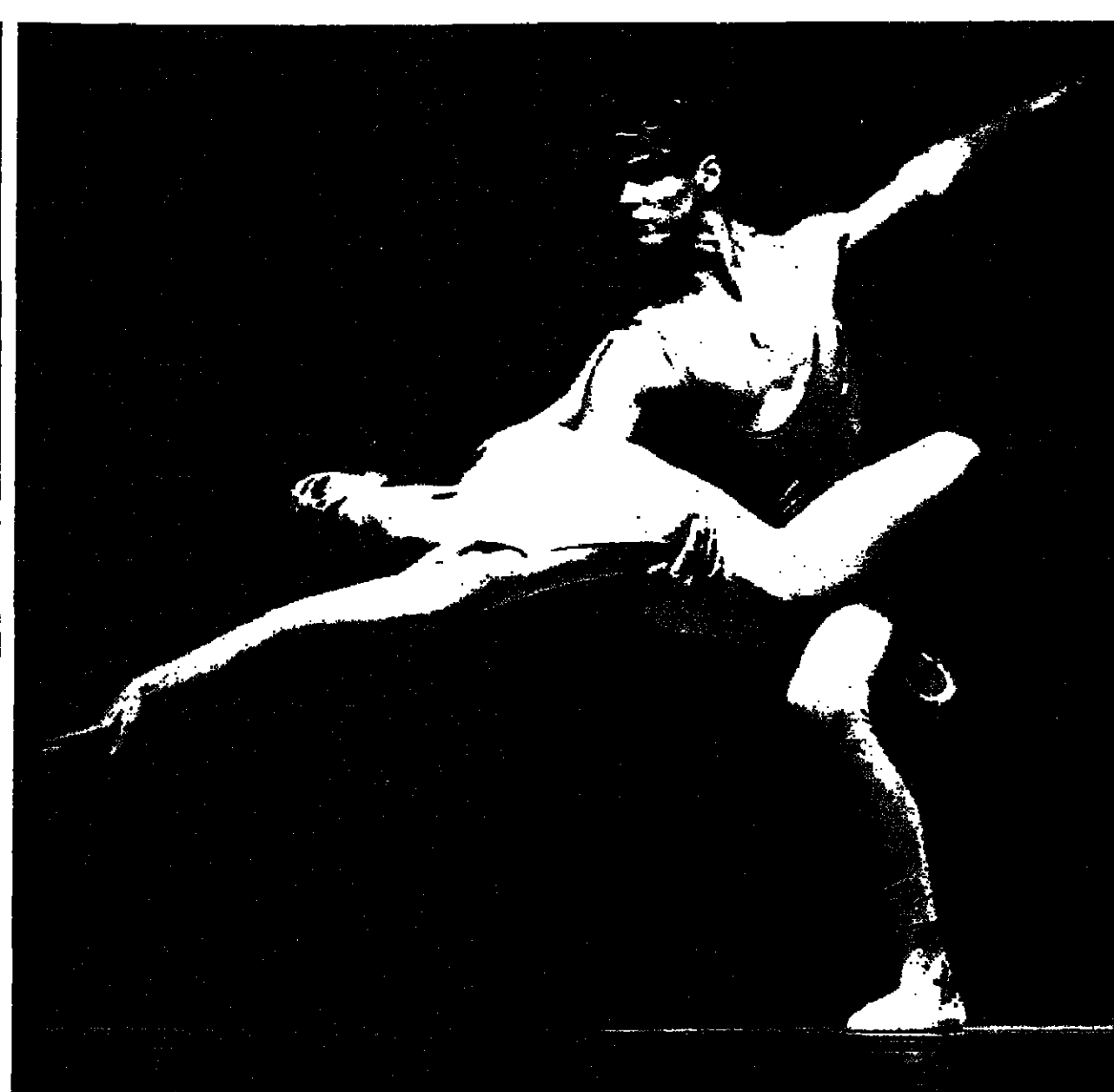
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A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE: Philip Prowse's stylish RSC production, in London after a triumphant tour. Callous aristocrat, wronged woman, melodrama laced with Wilde's wit. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, London SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

CHESTER: Eighteen different companies take part in The Chester Mysteries, each performing one of the plays, as in days of yore. Part of the cathedral's 900th anniversary celebration. Cathedral Green (0246 340392). In three parts spread over successive evenings from June 30 to July 6, 7.45pm. All three parts play on Sat July 4 and 11, 10am.

CHICHESTER: Revival of Gillian Pownall's finely crafted and prize-winning drama *Me and My Friend* the awkward attempts by four ex-psychiatric patients to master the niceties of social intercourse. Minerva, Oaklands Park (0243 781312). Previews Mon-Wed, 7.45pm; opens Fri, 7.45pm.

EDINBURGH: The new Traverse Theatre opens with *Columbus*, directed by Michael Geisze, author of the excellent



Berlin Ballet: Joakim Svalberg and Zara Deakin in Maurice Béjart's production of *The Rite of Spring* (see Dance)

Road, London W1 (071-580 9562), previewing Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm; opens July 6.

UNA POOKA: Exhilarating black and supernatural comedy by Michael Harding, set in Dublin on the eve of the Pope's visit. Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (071-328 1000). Previews from Thurs, 8pm; opens Mon, 7pm, then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: Ian Talbot's jolly production, full of rough and tumble and evergreen comedy. Dinsdale Landon plays Bottom. Open Air, Regents Park, NW1 (071-486 2431). Tonight, Mon, Tues, 8pm, mat today, 2.30pm.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: Canadian wonder-worker Robert Legarde directs Shakespeare's play of love and magic. With Jeffrey Kossow, Sally Dexter and Timothy Spall. National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Previews from Fri, 7.15pm; opens July 9, 7pm; then in repertoire.

THE NIGHT OF THE IGUANA: Alfred Molina and a superb Eileen Atkins in Tennessee Williams's play on the effects of sexual repression. National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Mon-Wed, 7.30pm, mat Wed, 2.15pm.

ROMEO AND JULIET: Michael Maloney and Clare Holman smitten by love and destiny in David Leveaux's production. Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Wed, Thurs, 7.30pm, mat Thurs, 2.30pm.

SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION: Stockard Channing recreates her role as the rich New Yorker transfixed by a black cab artist in John Guare's play. Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm.

A SLIP OF THE TONGUE: A wolfish John Malkovich in a lightfooted drama that seems to equate East-European defiance with getting girls into bed. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, 6pm and 9pm, Sat, 4.30pm and 8.30pm.

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Hanging the President. Columbus returns to Spain with lots of slaves. Traverse, Cambridge Street (031-228 1404). Previews from Tues, 8pm; opens Fri, 8pm; then Tues-Sat, 8pm.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON: Peter Hall tackles All's Well That Ends Well, one of Shakespeare's trickiest plays, for his first production at the Swan. With Richard Johnson, Barbara Jefford. In the main theatre, John Nelder returns to Stratford to play the tyrant in The Winter's Tale. At The Other Place, Ron Cook plays Othello in Derek Walcott's version of The Odyssey. Swan Theatre: previews tonight, Mon, 7.30pm, mat today, 1.30pm; opens Tues, 7pm. Royal Shakespeare Theatre: previews tonight, Mon, Tues, 7.30pm, mat today, 1.30pm; opens Wed, 7pm. The Other Place: previews tonight-Wed, 7.30pm, mat today 1.30pm; opens Thurs. (Box office: 0789 295623)

CLARE HOLMAN hugs Sheila Reid in *Romeo and Juliet*

MUSIC

CLASSICAL

THE PHILHARMONIA: In the final Festival Hall concert this season (the orchestra returns in September following its Proms appearance), Giuseppe Sinopoli conducts Mahler's Second Symphony, Resurrection. The soloists are Maria Bayo and Waltraud Meier. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800). Wed, 7.30pm.

GURRELIEDER: James Blair conducts the Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra, the London Choral Society and Goldsmiths Choral Union in an ambitious performance of Schoenberg's massive Gurrelieder. Soloists are Jane Eaglen, Penelope Walker, Peter Kerr, John Hutchinson and David Wilson-Johnson. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800). Thurs, 7.30pm.

PLATFORM 2: Following the success last year of "Platform 1", the festival of new music designed as a partial replacement for the Almeida Festival by pianist Joanna MacGregor and composer Alasdair Nicholson, the same pair have devised "Platform 2", which starts on Monday and runs until next Sunday. It will be based at the ICA, apart from a "new music marathon" at St Martin-in-the-Fields from 6.30pm until after midnight on Friday. Young performers play a wide range of contemporary music, including some premieres. Composer-in-residence is the Dane Paul Ruders; there are also birthday tributes to Cage and Xenakis. ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (071-930 0493).

ALMEIDA OPERA: A new collaboration between the Almeida Theatre and the Contemporary Opera Studio at English National Opera gets underway this week. The plan is to present a programme of contemporary opera, concerts, cabarets and recitals. The two full-length operas in this year's festival are a new work by Nigel Osborne (to be premiered on July 10), and Mario and the Magician, an adaptation of Thomas Mann's satirical allegory of the rise of fascism by the late Stephen Oliver (Thursday, 8pm;

further performances July 4, 11, 14, 18).

ALMEIDA THEATRE, Almeida Street, London N1 (071-359 4404)

DEATH IN VENICE: More Thomas Mann, this time in the form of Benjamin Britten's last opera. Stephen Lawless's production, with elegantly minimal designs by Tobias Hochstedt, was originally staged by Glyndebourne Touring Opera. The three principals from the outstanding original cast — Robert Tear as the doomed Aschenbach, Michael Chance as the prodigious young boy, and Alan Ope in the sinister bantone roles — have been reassembled now that the production has joined the festival itself. Graeme Jenkins conducts. Glyndebourne, Levens, East Sussex (0273 541111), Fri, 5.40pm.

LONDON OPERA FESTIVAL: The final week of the festival brings a small-scale production of Rossini's Semiramide by the adventurous Pocket Opera of Nuremberg (Riverside Studios, Mon, Tues, 7.45pm); an adaptation of the same composer's Cenerentola by the irreverent team of Nick Broadhurst and Tony Britten (Cinderella, Royal Theatre, Mon-Sat, 7.30pm); the London premiere of Robert Saxton's acclaimed Caritas (Queen Elizabeth Hall, Wed, Thurs, 8pm); and the London premiere of Luc Brewey's oblique and multi-layered reworking of Greek tragedy, Song of Satyr — Antigone, performed by the Belgian Ensemble Leporello (Riverside Studios, Thurs-Sat, 7.45pm).

LONDON OPERA FESTIVAL (Credit Card Hotline: 071-413 1428).

ROCK

AID FOR CYPRUS: Part of a campaign calling for reunification of Cyprus, the concert includes Melina Mercouri and the singer-songwriter George Dalaras. Wembley Arena, London (081-900 1234) tonight, 7.30pm.

ANC 80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS: Following her well received album, Matters of the Heart, Tracy Chapman lends her rich voice and political passion to this party for the faithful. Other acts include dub poets Linton Kwesi Johnson and Benjamin Zephaniah,

work by the American Bill T. Jones, which was given its first performance in Berlin earlier this year. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat next Sat, 2.30pm.

MICHAEL CLARK COMPANY: The former enfant terrible of British dance has finally proved his critics wrong with a brilliant new piece, Mimir (aka Michael's Modern Masterpiece), which has at its heart a sensational interpretation of Stravinsky's Rite of Spring. A thrilling production, highlighting Clark's talent as a musical and inventive choreographer and featuring four dancers who perform as if they were a company of 12. This is one of the shows of the year; the bad news is that booking tickets by telephone isn't easy because the box office is constantly engaged. Still, it's worth the effort. King's Cross Depot, off York Way, London N1 (071-494 3780), tonight, tomorrow, 8.30pm.

SALEROOMS

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY: A busy week for modern picture buyers. At Phillips on Monday there are modern and contemporary prints, from 1.30pm, and modern pictures at 5pm. At 2pm Christie's South Kensington offer paintings, drawings and sculpture, and Christie's King Street have their first session which includes a Chagall with an estimate of up to £1.2 million, at 7pm. On Tuesday there is a second session at King Street, 10.30am, together with contemporary works at 2.30pm. Sotheby's are in action at 10am and 2pm with prints and Chagall's lithographic illustrations to Longus's Daphnis and Chloe (up to £300,000), and again at 7pm, with works including a Picasso of painting on sheet metal (up to £850,000). There are still more modern paintings and drawings at Sotheby's on Wednesday, 11am. Also on Wednesday, at 6pm, Bonhams have a sale of ceramics and graphic works by Picasso, Cocteau and Chagall. Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, London W1 (071-629 6602). Christie's, 8 King Street, St James's, London SW1 (071-839 9060). Christie's, South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (071-581 7611). Sotheby's, New Bond Street, London W1 (071-493 8080). Bonhams, Montpelier Street, London SW7 (071-584 9161).

TUESDAY: Christie's Scotland offer fishing tackle plus works of art and furniture, 11am. Christie's, 164-6 Bath Street, Glasgow (041-332 8134).

THURSDAY: Scientific and medical instruments at Christie's South Kensington, 10.30am and 2pm, include an 18th-century male contraceptive device printed with a satirical ecclesiastical illustration, up to £800. Christie's South Kensington (as above).

EXHIBITIONS

MANET: THE EXECUTION OF MAXIMILIAN: The immediate occasion of this exhibition is the cleaning and restoration of the National Gallery's own Manet of the execution of the emperor Maximilian of Mexico, a subject which moved Manet to produce three large scale works, shown together here for the first time in this country. But also on display are other Manet paintings with political overtones, borrowed from as far afield as Boston, Mannheim, Chicago, Zurich and Paris. National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (071-639 3321). Daily, 10am-6pm (Wed to 9pm), opens Wed-September 27.

ALFRED SISLEY: Curiously, there has never been an important retrospective of the Impressionist's work before. This show encourages a major reassessment of his landscape art, and particularly of his work of the 1890s, when, the organisers contend, he arrived at his own version of the Impressionist palette, radically different from Monet's. Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (071-439 7438). Daily, 10am-6pm, Fri-October 18.

MASTER DRAWINGS: An annual excitement of summer is Colnaghi's show of Old Master and 19th-century drawings, which for the last ten years has been assembled in partnership with Jean-Luc Baroni. This year the new discoveries include a splendid Pontormo sketch for the head of a man in the National Gallery's Joseph in Egypt and a study of an old woman by Parmigianino, formerly known only from two copies, one in the Royal Collection. Colnaghi, 14 Old Bond Street, London W1 (071-491 7408). Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm, Wed-July 11.

DRAWINGS BY REMBRANDT AND HIS CIRCLE: The show is not the same as the drawings show in Berlin and Amsterdam, but homemade, mostly from the 80-odd Rembrandt (or Rembrandt-connected) works in the Department of Prints and Drawings — all of which have been closely scrutinised with some demoted to follower status. British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (071-636 1555). Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm, Sun, 2.30-6pm, until August 4.

TURNER AND BYRON: Turner's involvement with Byron's writings reached its most intense phase in the 1830s, after Byron's death, when a whole series of major paintings bore quotations from Byron or took Byronic scenes as their subject. This show in the Clare Gallery also fills in the background of Turner's illustrations to Byron's works. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (071-821 1313). Mon-Sat, 10am-5.50pm, Sun, 2pm-5.50pm, until September 13.

MAGRITTE: Magritte's strange world of ordinary objects cut adrift from their ordinary surroundings and illuminated with straight-faced Zen humour is well displayed in this significant show. Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 3002). Daily, 10am-6pm (Tues, Wed to 8pm), until August 2.

Courtesy Pine and Japanese rock-star Hotu Tomoyasu. Britton Academy, London SW9 (071-326 1022), tomorrow, 5.45pm.

JAZZ

GILBERTO GIL: The South Bank may be a far cry from Rio's Copacabana beach, where Gil started his world tour, but the master Brazilian guitarist creates a lively tropical atmosphere wherever he plays. Festival Hall, London SE1 (071-928 8800), Mon, 7pm.

MIKE AND KATE WESTBROOK: This respected pianist, composer and arranger works with his talented singer wife to create grandiose jazz projects, recently with a classical bent. They play here with the new 20-piece Mike Westbrook Orchestra. Ronnie Scott's, Firth Street, London W1 (071-439 0747). Mon-Sat, 8.30pm.

GLASGOW INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL: This ten day event kicks off with, among others, joyful South African pianist Shelo Maseku (Thurs, 7.30pm). Scotland's own Tommy Smith (Thurs, 11pm), and subtle drummer Paul Moan and his trio (Fri, 7.30pm) — all at the Tramway. Highlights the following week include the great pianist McCoy Tyner supported by drummer Elvin Jones and Don Cherry's band, Nu. Ticket Centre, Candleriggs, Glasgow (041-227 5511), Thurs-July 11.

DANCE

BERLIN BALLET: Two years after parting company with English National Ballet, Peter Schaufuss is back in London with his new company, showcasing many of the dancers he took with him to Germany. Berlin Ballet opens its week-long season on Monday with Schaufuss's production of Giselle. Later in the week comes a triple bill of *The Rite of Spring*, Maurice Béjart's 1959 staging of Stravinsky's masterpiece; Christopher Bruce's terrific ballet about political torture, *Swansong*; and the British premiere of *Die Offnung* (The Opening), a

work by the American Bill T. Jones, which was given its first performance in Berlin earlier this year. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat next Sat, 2.30pm.

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Auntie moves in a big way

After a cleansing break from television, Lynne Truss considers the high-minded BBC men and the demise of a soap star



SOME people are a bit snitty about television. They hide their tellies in cupboards, or behind bookcases, and keep them permanently in nasty, unheated

second-storey rooms, alongside bits of old bike and hibernating geraniums. The idea is to prevent themselves from treating television as an easy option, and risking exposure to the spooky quiet of their living-rooms doing improving jigsaw puzzles to the ticking of clocks; and on Sunday evenings debate whether they care enough about *Mastermind* to climb the wooden hill to TV-land and clear a space among the tent-poles and rocking horses.

I do not see the point of such perverse behaviour, really. Television is an easy option or it is nothing. In most people's lives, it is the mental equivalent of endless cups of tea — effortless, regular, reliable, cheap, and only minimally different from one cup to the next.

The idea that a discerning person might choose to watch only the "best" programmes makes no sense in this post-modern age. Good television is only good in the context of, well, of television, so you have to allow it to be a thoughtless habit. At least, that's how I see it after a couple of weeks of denying myself any television at all. Retrieving the telly from the shed last weekend (to the cheering of the cats) I said, "Odds-bobs, this is a heavy burden," and then paused to ponder how true, how true.

It was a wonderful fortnight in most regards. Of course there were some tricky moments when the television schedules beckoned alluringly (I had to be lashed to a mast when *EastEnders* was on), but generally it was a period of mental cleansing, during which I rediscovered books and jam-making, and periodically stopped seeing the world exclusively in terms of long-shots, close-ups, and over-the-shoulders. Inevitably the cats made adolescent protests — "Miaow" (I'm bored), "Miaow" (Why can't we watch *Noel's Addicts*, like normal?), "Miaow" (Can't I even play my fish-tank video?). But I stood my ground. "Read the *TLS* or something," I said.

So on Sunday, when I returned from the land of the living and, watched ITV's lunchtime *Special Inquiry: The Trouble with Auntie*, I was in an uncharacteristic what's-

TV REVIEW

this-old-nonsense frame of mind. At issue was the future of the BBC, as it faces the crunch of charter-renewal and increasing competition for ratings. Glimpses of a deadly serious top-level think-tank of BBC executives showed chaps in specs foregathered around a tea-tum in the sort of remote, leafy, 30-bedroom country house normally reserved for episodes of *Lovejoy*. The sort of place where nobody can hear you scream.

What made a bee-line for my haddies was not the seriousness of the BBC's problems (although I am glad, as always, not to be a senior BBC executive because, for one thing, I would have to be a man). It was the phrase "Himalayan Option" that got the proverbial goat. Faced, you see, with the enormous competition from the commercial television marketplace in cheap sitcoms, game shows, people shows and imports, the BBC has the option of operating exclusively on the so-called high ground — hence the Himalayan analogy.

But which Himalayas are they talking about? Isn't the comparison rather grand? I mean, yes there is a difference between *Neighbours* and *Clarissa*, but it is all television, and television by its very nature smooths out quality distinctions. That is what it does best, in fact: it is almost what it is for.

On Sunday night on Channel 4, a *Without Walls* special (an hour long) gave us a straight-faced documentary on the careers of pop artist Richard Hamilton and his former student Bryan Ferry (a real-life pop artefact) — without any distinction being made between the quality of a Roxy Music album cover and the art of Hamilton; or between the art of Hamilton and the art of anyone else. Why? Because it really didn't matter, in the context of today's art programmes, whether any of it had the smallest iota of merit.

Sorry to rant, but I feel that the *Pennine Option*, or the *South Downs Option* might be a more cautious and apposite term. I think we can all agree that even at its tallest peaks television never requires us to wear breathing equipment or hire sherpas. Looking at an average week (i.e. this one) the outstanding moments are not its peaks, in any case. My favourite



Set for a moving BBC1 occasion: the dying Gill (Susan Dawson) of *EastEnders*, with Mark (Todd Carty) and Michelle (Susan Tully)

bis this week would include Stefan Edberg advertising the *Daily Express* on ITV by pretending to read it; John Barrett on *Wimbledon 92* (BBC2) drily commenting on Andre Agassi's Wednesday afternoon appearance — "He looks a bit like a pony, doesn't he?"; and BBC1's *Everyman* taking us inside the bathetic world of American Christian athletes, with their corny songs to the Almighty rhyming "Lord" with "sports".

Plus, there was *EastEnders* (BBC1) with its ground-breaking first soap death by Aids (or should that be "first Aids death by soap"?). Anyway, poor grey-faced Gill died on Thursday in a hospice, having married Mark on Tuesday — and the whole thing was excellently done, with good writing, good acting and no cheap sentiment. To add to the sense of occasion, we were given an abundance of one-off sets and locations, and to top it all a

camera that moved. A rare treat. In the central restaurant scene (above) the camera travelled right around the table, 360 degrees.

The death itself was unsensational, and less distressing than scenes in previous weeks concerning Gill's decline. The unwritten rule of soap opera that deaths should come at the ends of episodes was swept aside, and Gill was placed quite early in Thursday's, which was then devoted mainly to Mark and Michelle, discussing their childhoods and feeding ducks. A stronger contrast could not be found to the last big crowd-puller in *Brookside* (Channel 4), which entailed a not very tense stand-off on a lonely beach between two not very good actors, and ending on the weary cliff-hanger, "Bang".

My only quibble with Gill's death was that it was still more of a death by soap than death by Aids. Her function in the series was

always understood — as a nice, blameless, ill person destined to die young. Involved in no story lines beyond her own, she was supremely expendable. The Aids theme was powerful, obviously, when she was living through the horror of it; but by a curious irony, her death seems to relieve us of Aids rather than impress us with its terrible finality.

It is a real problem of soap opera (in which death is often just an accepted way of getting people off-stage) that big, important deaths fail to connect. For one thing, although grief is an overwhelming, prolonged emotion, it is not dramatic except for a few minutes. But more importantly, television lives in the ever-present tense. Dead people are thus forgotten in the twinkling of an eye, and the wagon train moves on. I reckon this is why the week's scriptwriter, Deborah Cook, gave

us Mark and Michelle reminiscing on the grass, and why the camera went right around the table. Look! Three dimensions! Rounded human beings! There was even a special speech for Michelle, saying how weird it was that Gill's death didn't really connect with Aids. But although Gill received the best care a dying woman could ask of a soap opera, in the end (as Mark so rightly pointed out) it didn't stop her dying and passing into history.

In *The Trouble with Auntie*, we were assured that under the famous Himalayan option (now abandoned) *EastEnders* would have been up there on the roof of the world, alongside *Edge of Darkness* and *Black House*. For some reason it makes me want to sing "High on a hill lived a lonely goatherd" in defiance. *EastEnders* is top of the range, certainly. But let's not get carried away buying snow-goggles. A nice cup of tea will do.

TV PREVIEW

● **Black and White in Colour** (tonight, BBC2, 8.45pm) Mega season on BBC2, lasting until Friday, showing the way TV has represented blacks and Asians. Episodes of *The Forsytes* and *Empire Road* are interspersed with documentaries and the odd Play for Today, and Spike Lee's *Do the Right Thing*. Norman Beaton makes surprisingly few appearances. The fact that the entire history of blacks and Asians in television can be covered in a single week is a sobering thought in itself. Meanwhile there is room to reflect that some of this material (Z Cars, for example) ought more properly to be called *Black and White in Black and White*.

● **Wogan** (Monday, Wednesday, Friday, BBC1, 7pm) So. (Pause. Smile expectantly.) Wogan's farewell week. (Pause.) He's got Michelle Pfeiffer on Wednesday. (Pause.) And much more besides. (Pause. Nervous titter from audience.) Especially if you count Plácido Domingo. (Pause.) Amazing how you can stretch the material like this. (Pause.) And thereby give the impression that something devastatingly witty is going on in the old sub-text. (Pause.) When it isn't.

● **Secret History: Deep Sleep** (Monday, Channel 4, 9pm) Remember this programme the next time you prop up your weary head and say "I could sleep for a week." Deep sleep therapy, as developed by psychiatrists in the 1930s as a remedy for stress, is evidently the sort of nightmare you don't wake up from. *Secret History* tells the story of more recent experiments in Australia which led to 79 deaths and hundreds of cases of brain damage. It is a good investigative story, with a great twist in the tale. By a wonderful stroke of irony, the chief experimenter to Dr Harry Bailey, received a dose of his own medicine. The Australian press were investigating a patient's death, you see, which led to some stress for the doctor. So his colleagues gave him some deep sleep therapy. You shouldn't laugh.

● **Baby Doll** (Tuesday Channel 4, 10pm) When this Tennessee Williams film was first released in 1956, it was thought that the old swamp alligator of American letters had finally gone too far. Here was Carroll Baker in the famous shorty nightie; here was a cast of characters whose combined IQ struggled to reach double figures; here was carnal suggestiveness oozing from every frame. The Legion of Decency banned Catholics from seeing it — but interestingly they referred to it as *Baby Doyle*, so perhaps mistook it for an attack on the Irish.

L.T.

Music unlimited: starting today, a weekly rundown of the best of the new releases across the spectrum of sounds

Velvet fist in an iron glove

Ten years ago Helmet's astounding second album, *Meantime* (Interscope 7567-92162-2), would have been categorised (and routinely written off) as heavy metal. Their timing, however, is perfect, and thanks to the Def Jam phenomenon of the 1980s and the mainstream success of Metallica and Nirvana in the 1990s, the New York-based four-piece can sound in many respects like a souped-up version of Black Sabbath and still have its finger as firmly on the pulse as any indie act.

Page Hamilton deploys a guitar sound that is as nimble as it is hard, jabbing out tightly scripted riffs that dodge to either side of the beat like a boxer working out on a little punch-bag. When he is not spitting out snatched segments of lyrics in a wolfish snarl, Hamilton often sings in a strangely fragile timbre which further defuses the old metal stereotype.

The best tracks — "Give It", "Unsung", "He", "Feels Bad"

ROCK

— combine bone-crushing pressure with a subtle, stabbing momentum. *Meantime* proceeds with a dead thud and a mordant swing.

Having enjoyed patchy results since *Light of the World*, their 1980 album debut, *Incognito* finally broke through with last year's hit single "Always There". *Tribes, Vibes and Scribes* (Talkin Loud 512 363-2) is impeccably turned-out upmarket soul.

The deluge of Queen product released in the wake of Freddie Mercury's death shows no sign of easing up. *Box of Tricks* (Star Direct CDQTEL 001) is the most lavish package yet. A sumptuous, two-tier vermillion box opens to reveal a video ("Live at the Rainbow '74"), booklet, poster, T-shirt and CD (or cassette) compilation of rarest 12in mixes. Available only by mail order from PO Box 643, Bristol BS99 1TU, £49.99 (plus £3.50 p&p).



Heavy makes you happy: Helmet offer their own Nirvana

With Tom Jones currently enjoying mixed notices for his Saturday night Central TV series, now is clearly the right time to punt a new compilation of the following boy's greatest hits. *The Complete Tom Jones* (The Hit Label 644 286-2), although hardly "complete", boasts a generous com-

plement of favourites, from "It's Not Unusual" and "Green Green Grass of Home" to more recent triumphs like "A Boy From Nowhere" and his hilariously mad reading of Prince's "Kiss".

DAVID SINCLAIR

Good Dirty fun

What a curious world. A juvenile rapper can become a household name simply by mouthing a few swearwords, yet after a decade and a half of hard work the Dirty Dozen Brass Band is still almost unknown in this country.

The New Orleans group is one of the two or three most enthralling live jazz acts in the world, yet its recent British tour did not even include any dates in central London. Part of the problem has been finding a way of channelling the uninhibited energy of their concerts into their studio recordings. *Open Up (Watcha Gonna Do For The Rest of Your Life?)* (Columbia 468365) is the closest they have come since signing a major record deal.

The basic marching band concept is much the same, but this time there are no guest stars and only one non-original tune — "Eyouzz" by Johnny Dyan, the late and lamented South African bass player.

CLIVE DAVIES

ments lack the flair and unpredictability of a Mingus, the piece still bodes well for the future.

New British talent is given a showcase on *Pyrotechnics* (CDP-7996592), a laudable collaboration between Blue Note and the Technics hi-fi company. The plan was to allow the musicians time and space to practise their craft, and it seems churlish to pick holes in it. But it is the same old story of masses of technical skill and a teaspoonful of emotional content. Django Bates is the most individual composer, but even his work shows a fertile talent at war with a relentlessly skittish sense of humour.

In any future venture the two companies could consider giving space to vocalists like Claire Martin, whose debut album *The Waiting Game* (Linn Records AKD018) illustrates a welcome knack of digging up neglected show tunes. She is not afraid of taking on contemporary pop tunes either.

CLIVE DAVIES



GUILTY SECRETS

Eddy Shah: "I'm addicted to watching *Through The Keyhole* out of sheer nosiness: it's compulsive. Ordinary people like to see how a 'celebrity' lives and, if you are a celebrity or someone with money, you can sit at home and think, 'I've got a better house than that!'"

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Handled with care

By far the most stylish and serious of Mozart recital recordings missed Mozart year altogether. Peter Schreier's selection of Mozart *Lieder*, accompanied by András Schiff (Decca 430 514-2) distances itself from last year's unnatural ghst, and makes its own lucid assessment of the composer's contribution to the song repertoire.

Between them, Schreier, with a lifetime's understanding of the German *Lied*, and Schiff, with his unique discernment of Mozart's keyboard writing, have the just measure of this music. They know just how to paint the little rococo scenes of Cupids and Sylvias, Demons and Chloës without coyness or embarrassment. They recognise, too, the sophistication and stature of songs like the melancholic "Ich wurd auf meinem Pfad" and "Abend-

empfindung", with its evening serenade.

For the ubiquitous Goethe setting of "Das Veilchen", Schreier takes his expressive cue not from the violet's plight, but from the shape of the musical line itself. For once, the song is freed from sentimentality. Schreier puts his false teeth in for a nicely understated character piece, "Die Ahe", yet steps out with springing tread on Wisdom's path in "The Song of the Journeyman".

In this and another of Mozart's Masonic items, the *Kleine deutsche Kantate*, Schreier tempers the Sarastrian solemnity of cadence with a characteristic liveliness of word and grace of phrase. With Schiff's nimble and wide-eyed accompanying,



Strong Kathleen Battle

this is far more than a supplement to the Mozart catalogue. Kathleen Battle curries sweetly to Mozart in the live recording of her 1991 Carnegie Hall recital (DG 435 440-2). The tale of Luise burning her faithless lover's letters is answered by a winsome "Ridente la calma". Liszt's French songs ("S'il est un charmant gazon", "Oh, quand je dors") fit the salon vulnera-

bility of Battle's velour soprano to a nicety. She descends from the moonlit steppes of four Rachmaninov songs to Gershwin's "Summertime", where she is more at home. Four spirituals end a recital generously sprinkled with loud applause.

Battle's recording of baroque repertoire with the trumpeter Wynton Marsalis is stronger stuff (Sony, SK 466672). These are hardly the bright seraphim of a Silesian master; nothing could be further from our current notions of stylistic authenticity. But only the most firmly pursed lips could deny the thrill of their antiphonal calls to battle in four of Alessandro Scarlatti's *arie con tromba sola*: only those with ears reluctant to hear could fail to enjoy Handel's "Eternal Source of Light Divine" and the sometimes mischievous gymnastics of Marsalis's ornamentation in both Handel and Bach.


HILARY FINCH

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Lacey lady goes on the town

Tyne Daly, in London for concerts, talks to Richard Morrison

Even as she sits in the Savoy, preparing to do something completely different, Tyne Daly is plagued by pestilent British journalists on one topic only: *Cagney and Lacey*. The show about two women cops toughing it out among the male debris of New York (and that's just in the police station) has gripped television viewers on both sides of the Atlantic for six years. Daly plays Mary Beth Lacey — the arch-worrier, precariously balancing career, family and pregnancies, and still managing to frisk the odd villain with a mean zeal.

No wonder, I suggest rashly, that Mary Beth has become a role model. Daly bristly demurs. "This role, model thing frightens me. An actress can't set out to play a role model, or play a slogan. Any role, whether it's Lady Macbeth or Mary Beth, has to be grounded in specifics. You can't simply play 'Love's Young Dream' or 'The Monster Mother'."

Nevertheless, *Cagney and Lacey* broke new ground, in giving to women roles traditionally assigned to men. The tough guys. The buddies. The main interest.

"There were precedents," Daly points out. "*Charlie's Angels*. *Policewoman*. Mind you, Miss Dickinson always had to run around in high heels, and be saved by the boys. Our producer devised *Cagney and Lacey* because he wanted a series about two buddies who are women. In a perfect world, he said, they would have worked in a post office, doing much less flashy jobs. He was really interested in being a fly on the wall of the ladies' room, listening in to What Women Really Talk About, when they are not making an adjustment to a society run by men."

As directors and writers came and went, Daly says that the main actors felt an obliga-

tion to be "custodians of our roles", rejecting any storyline that felt, literally, "out of character". Gradually, the complex personal lives of Cagney and Lacey took over the plots. In any other cop series, the lack of screaming tyres and smoking guns and shouts of "Freeze!" would be considered a trifle disadvantageous. With *Cagney and Lacey*, the viewers were more absorbed than ever.

Those black depressions of Mary Beth's, when she brooded over her inner turmoil, testing even the patience of her husband, the saintly Harv — why were they introduced? "Remember that Mary Beth was doing precisely the tricky juggling act that a lot of women actually do," says Daly. "She was trying to be a wife, mother and employee, and feeling desperately tired and ill-equipped."

Was that drawn from Daly's own experience? "Sure. The first Emmy I won was for a show called *Burn Out*, which was my idea. I wanted to portray a tired woman suffering from overload, and having a promised vacation taken away from her, and simply disappearing. It was great fun to do, because it was exactly what I was feeling at the time."

That is hard to believe. Strong boned, bracingly direct in quintessential New York style, Daly looks the epitome of resilience, and her astonishingly prolific career attests to her professionalism. She is here to take part in two Barbican concert perfor-

mances of Bernstein's 1944 musical *On the Town*, with the London Symphony Orchestra and a cast of distinguished opera singers. Deutsche Grammophon is recording the performances. Won't the plot — three sailors on 24-hour leave in wartime New York — seem dated?

"It's a period piece, but not dated," says Daly. "Having a limited time to cram a lot of fun into: all of us have experienced that. And it has beautiful tunes. 'New York, New York' is the one that's known, but 'We'll catch up some other time' is one of the ten prettiest pieces ever."

How is Daly's singing voice? "I did train to be a singer, with Philip Burton — surrogate father of Richard Burton. His American Musical and Dramatic Academy was founded on the premise that American actors must be able to function in the musical theatre, because that's our artform. You had to be able not only to speak and move, but also sort of sing. That's what I do: sort of sing."

Three years ago this "sort of singing" landed Daly the best role ever written for a woman in an American musical: the appalling Rose in *Syne and Sondheim's Gypsy*, which was revived on Broadway 30 years after its premiere. She won a Tony, and gave the show 600 times. As she was known for playing a cop, had she expected to be offered such a role?

"Yes. I have an enormous ego, you know. That's how you survive in this business." The selection process had its surreal points. "Initially I received a letter that said: 'Mr Sondheim, Mr Tyne and Mr Laurence would like you, and no one else, to come and do *Gypsy* in New York'. Well, that was pretty far-fetched: I figured they had asked Liza before me. But I said okay."



Tyne Daly, typically New York: "That's what I do: sort of sing"

"Then I got another letter. 'Would you like to come to Mr Tyne's apartment on Park Avenue, so that you can do the odd song with the piano and establish some keys.' So I said 'sure, I'll do that'."

"Then I got a third letter. 'Your audition for Mr Tyne, Mr Sondheim and Mr Laurence is at this appointed hour at this theatre'. What was once an invitation was now an audition. But it was fine with

me. I've never gotten elegant about not auditioning. Part of what you're supposed to do is go and show your wares."

That way of thinking, of course, is worlds apart from the "come and beg me" attitude of modern Hollywood's brash young stars. But then, Daly was steeped in old-fashioned stage values from childhood. Both parents were actors. "I consider I'm in a service job," she says.

That service has included 200 television shows, dozens of film and stage roles, four Emmy awards and a Tony. She disappears for the Barbican, still willing to learn. "I'll be watching how those opera singers work, seeing if I can pick up a few more tricks of my trade." She would probably make a terrific Tosca.

On the Town is at the Barbican Hall (071-638 8891) tomorrow (7.30) and Monday (7.45)

Modest memorial to the composer

CONCERTS
Panufnik memorial
Barbican/Radio 3

SIR Andrzej Panufnik intended himself to conduct the premiere of his Cello Concerto, commissioned by the London Symphony Orchestra for Mstislav Rostropovich to perform. But the composer died a month after finishing what became his last work. His premiere was the centrepiece of the orchestra's memorial concert to him, conducted by the American Hugh Wolff.

The concerto is of modest dimensions, involving only five wind instruments, drums and strings, of which the cellos were grouped centrally behind the soloist, although the reason was never very apparent. In two movements, it seemed also relatively modest in its writing, the first movement opening out from intimations of poetic feeling to a passionate cry of concern.

This contrasted with a more active and almost jaunty sequel, keeping firm roots in tonality and having a relationship that Panufnik characterised by the geometric shape of the mandorla, set up when two equal circles overlap. The palindromic implications of

this are, however, not to be missed. There was much to be said as well as a keen concern for balance by the composer.

The latter's exposure of textures carved such patterns from the players in the Tenth Symphony, given its British premiere last year. Much of it took on a character of a public hearing, a single-movement work, chiefly notable for its small motifs into which poster-bright sound.

Later, Rostropovich turned to possibly the most as a selfless Don Quixote. His romantic eloquence, the perfect pose of the soloist, left one in no doubt of the memory in Panufnik's sharply orchestrated strings.

NOEL GOODWIN

Dark horses win

Quatuor Mosaiques
St James, Piccadilly

HOW typical of the particular enterprise of the Lufthansa Baroque Festival that it should provide the London debut for a quartet whose name is barely known in this country. True to form, though, this least attention seeking and most musically satisfying of long-term festival partnerships has sought out one of the most distinctive of quartets currently playing in Europe. The Quatuor Mosaiques, all members of the Vienna Concentus Musicus, are led, from the cello, by Christophe Coin, well known for his solo work with the Academy of Ancient Music.

They play period instruments in a style which transcends mere period manner. Their strong grasp of musical argument is an unmistakable hallmark of their work with Nikolaus Harnoncourt; yet the deceptive grace and nonchalance with which they shape and shade each phrase is entirely their own.

The little Haydn Op 103, just two perfectly balanced movements, has become something of a family stone for these Mosaiques. In the midway interval, passing spreading into harmonic hardening into later romantic units, was played as a discovered for the first time.

Complementing the more limpid quality of the playing, are the rhythms and rubato of the Eastern European tradition, which they were all trained. This fairly bounced out of the Menuet, both here and in the Mozart "Dissonance" Quartet with which they ended their programme.

They had begun with Haydn's E flat major quartet, Op 20 No 1. Homogeneity of tone and perfect blending seemed irrelevant here. What mattered, and what is so much more interesting, was the inter-fertilisation of each individual voice, one with another.

HILARY FINCH

Parents and children have different views of the past

THEATRE

On Top of the World
Croydon Warehouse

A TITLE of this sort means only one thing, and that is irony. Clive, a widower, has been uprooted from his suburban marital home and thrust by his daughter into an apartment in the tallest tower block of Surfers' Paradise, Queensland. From the viewing platform on the 32nd floor they can see miles of ocean and even, when the daughter, Steph, is being fanciful, centuries of history, back to the Crucifixion and the Trojan War. And is he happy? One guess only.

Michael Gow's uneven but arresting play (subject: family discontent) was first produced by the Sydney Theatre Company in 1986 and is brought to the Warehouse in a new production by that company, directed by Wayne Harrison, STC's artistic director.

Whatever its faults, uncertainty of the Australian background will not be one of them, although for English audiences the searing effect of the 1930s Depression may well seem an odd element to include in a relatively contemporary play. Cantankerous

insensitive at this point. Long speeches are much favoured by Gow and each of his four characters is given one that discloses his or her shaping experience. Steph and Marcus (Todd Boyce) are not well served by theirs, so that for all the relentless ear-bashing from one and the gulped confession by the other, their characters remain unfocused.

But with the older couple Gow knows exactly what he is doing and can net a lifetime's experience in a five-minute reverie. When Ronald Falk as Clive recalls his wife's mania for home improvements, in a tartly funny, heartfelt speech, he seems to speak for a generation of hag-ridden Australian husbands.

Balancing this comes Ramsey's account of caring for a singularly accident-prone family, in which Gow makes tenderness coexist with humour and Ramsey, smiling beneath her white hair like a placid iced bun, presents the unaggressive alternative to restless go-getter.

Jeremy Kingston



Conflict: Baby (Lois Ramsey, left) and Steph (Carol Burns) in *On Top of the World*

Shadowy ritual games

DANCE

White Bird Featherless
Playhouse, Oxford

SIQBHAN DAVIES's new work for her own company takes place on a white floor surrounded by blackness, with three chevron glasses just visible on either side, shaped like tall, pointed church windows. Peter Mumford's lighting throws patterns onto the floor, like the squares of a chessboard, or the flagstones of a church.

Are we looking for games here, or a solemn ritual? We get both. Ambiguity is relevant, because the title of the piece, *White Bird Featherless*, is taken from an 18th-century riddle. Those words also come from the score by Gerald Barry, for two pianos and countenour, which itself comes partly from his opera *The Intelligence Park*.

Barry's music infuses Davies's dances with both energy and mystery. There are compelling passages of complex speed and intensity for the pianos (ably manoeuvred at

spectators, but they provide a marvellous context for Davies's invention, which mingles playfulness with solemnity, fluent and demanding movement with a spacious clarity. Davies has a special gift for integrating moments of stasis into her dances so that the stillness clarifies rather than interrupts the flow of rhythm; this is used particularly well in relation to the eerie eruptions of the voice into the percussive score.

Half of the dancers are new to the company but they all go so well with each other and with Davies's intentions that you would be hard put to say which are the three new and which the old hands: except that in a revival of *Wyoming*, completing the programme, Gill Clarke shows heart-rending intensity that makes her, unambiguously, first among equals.

JOHN PERCIVAL

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Batman's latest success

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Batman Returns — the director interviewed, in *The Sunday Times* Review tomorrow

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KIND FOOD: ALISON JOHNSON

Cost of caring

At my home in the Hebrides it is possible to live without supermarkets: that means little consumer choice. In a way that is irksome, because "good" alternatives — free-range chicken, outdoor pork, organic vegetables — may be unobtainable. In another way, it is salutary. You never get to feeling that something ought to be there just because you fancy it.

In the cities, supermarket shoppers have choice as never before — chickens of several different degrees of free-rangeness, maybe — and yet they are still buying the unkind broiler. On grounds of cost? Out of a genuine lack of money? In many cases not. I believe the choices shoppers make are often out of sheer self-indulgence: it is cheap and I am mean, so to hell with the chickens, is the message they give to retailers.

One can survive without that sort of choice. It is not difficult to get into the habit of walking past battery eggs, cheap pork products (cruelly produced) or broiler chickens. If there were not so much choice, one would not bother looking at the price. So if it helps, don't look at the price.

Showing self-restraint in shopping might even lead to wider choices at the "good" end of the scale: the more people buy the high-welfare products, the more competition there will be between kind, kinder and even kinder products. In a few years' time we could be choosing between perchery and free-range eggs, for example, with battery cage

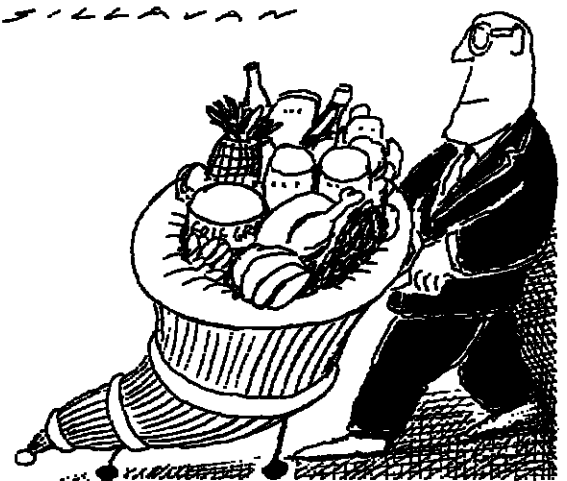
eggs phased out through lack of consumer demand. Or between loose-housed indoor and free-range pork.

One of my daydreams is of a Body Shop-style food retailing chain: shops where the moral homework had been done for shoppers.

If it ever happened, you would be able to get all the ingredients for this banana loaf there. No cheap South American bananas; the Windward Islands depend on Britain's trade promises. Eggs from genuinely free-ranging hens. Brazil nuts, to encourage sustainable use of tropical forests. Oil from sunflowers, good for wildlife, not from rape seed, bad for hayfever. Sugar from Guyana, where they depend on it for export. Coffee — yes, I know coffee has a bad record socially and environmentally — buy it from Traidcraft. Or use Guinness — well, yes, that has a bad record in some respects too. And organic flour.

Ethically sound banana loaf
1lb/500g organic wholewheat flour
4 tsp baking powder
½ tsp nutmeg
2 tsp cinnamon
4oz/100g chopped brazil nuts
8fl oz/200ml oil
3 free-range eggs
6oz/175g light muscovado sugar
4 medium bananas, mashed
6fl oz/150ml strong black coffee

Sift first four ingredients, add nuts. Whisk everything else for one minute, then fold mixtures together. Pour into two greased loaf tins (1lb/500g size) and bake for 45-50 min at 150C.



Service with a lemon-scented smile: Michael Bostock, Britain's Sandwich Bar of the Year winner, and his assistant Trevor Irving, at Clocks, their shop in Kingston, Surrey

Earning an honest crust

Working for a credit card company did not do nicely for Michael Bostock, so he became king of the sandwich makers. Josephine Fairley reports

You can spot Britain's Sandwich Bar of the Year from the queue of eager customers that snakes along the street outside in Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

Fast-food eaters could nip into the nearby Boots or M & S for a pre-packaged, temperature-controlled sandwich with a precisely measured dollop of filling and a uniform lettuce leaf. But the almost overnight success of the Clocks bar, run by 34-year-old Michael Bostock, the winner of the British Sandwich Association's top award, suggests that when it comes to buying sandwiches many people prefer them served with a smile — and a lemon-scented napkin.

Britons buy about 40 million sandwiches a week, worth

£1.45 billion a year. But although the chain stores have grabbed a big chunk of the lunch market over the last decade, sandwich bars such as Mr Bostock's are booming.

Eighteen months ago, Mr Bostock bought his lunchtime sandwiches from Boots and ate them at his desk at the American Express company, where he marketed AmEx gold cards. "It was a high-powered career, but I couldn't take a desk job any longer," he says. "I wanted something where I could walk around more, and if I got annoyed and frustrated I could, at least, take it out on a side of salt

beef." His catering ambitions were kindled by a stint in the public house trade, then as a commis waiter at Claridges hotel in London, after which "I yearned to be involved in catering, but as the boss".

He found premises in Clarence Street, Kingston and, to give the venture a theme, decorated the walls with his collection of antique docks, which inspired the bar's name.

Mr Bostock and two assistants make more than 200 sandwiches a day. Fillings such as egg and cress (the cheapest sandwich at £1.05) and smoked salmon and cream cheese (the dearest at £2.45) are prepared early each morning, before the rush.

"It's like show business," he says. "We're raring to go 'on-stage' at 11 o'clock, ready with the badinage — which the clients love."

The queue of customers moves swiftly, and there's classical music while you wait to soothe impatient toe-tappers. "But people don't mind waiting, so long as the sandwich-maker is not taking an age to prepare," he says. "We make eye contact, smile,

acknowledge people. Offering that kind of personal service was my goal from the start."

And there are the little extras: that lemon-scented napkin for sticky fingers, and a distinctive carrier bag.

Reflecting a growing concern with health, Clocks' malted grain sandwiches — white bread by four to one. But although Mr Bostock offers some unusual combinations — blue Brie and grapes, fresh asparagus, or a "Wimbledon Special" featuring cream cheese and strawberries — he laments that the average sandwich-eater is unimaginative.

"Chicken is our best-seller by far, though that includes coronation chicken and chicken tikka, then egg, then honey-roast ham," he says. A surprising number of customers order the same sandwich every day. "Sometimes you want to say to a dyed-in-the-wool roast beef-eater, I dare you to have an egg mayonnaise instead."

Mr Bostock longs to offer dessert sandwiches, featuring cream and fruit, or to emulate smart City sandwich-sellers

whose flavour-of-the-moment is a BLP (bacon, lettuce and fruit). "But I don't think Kingston is ready for that yet," he says.

It was as much Mr Bostock's finely tuned corporate identity as his recipes which scooped the BSA's award, which was sponsored by Edam cheese. (That no such filling appears on his 35-sandwich menu clearly lost him no points.) Jim Winslip, a BSA official, says: "Clocks created something a bit different."

The staff, including Mr Bostock, wear waistcoats and long aprons, and the nostalgic theme extends to the delivery service — via a 1960s Ministry of Defence bicycle.

But behind the old-fashioned facade, Mr Bostock is one step ahead of the new, strict European Commission guidelines governing safe sandwich preparation and storage. "I'm looking at the possibility of a fridge for the delivery bike, powered by pedals, or by solar," he says.

Mr Bostock is the envy of his former colleagues at American Express. He recently received a postcard from an ex-work-

mate who had visited the bar on a rare occasion when Mr Bostock was not standing behind the counter. "Sorry to miss you," she wrote, "but congratulations. PS: I bet you're glad you didn't call it Bostock's Butties, after all."

Such a name does not trip off the tongue as neatly as Clocks, perhaps. And Bostock's Butties might not have fulfilled the BSA's "theme" criteria quite so elegantly. Nevertheless, in Kingston, the customers would probably still queue half-way round the block for a Michael Bostock special sarnie.

Here is an example from his repertoire:

Clocks' Wimbledon Special
(serves 1, costs £1.50)
2 slices fresh wholemeal bread
cream cheese (Philadelphia or Philadelphia Light)
mixed leaves (radicchio, lollo rosso, fennel, curly endive)
sliced strawberries

Spread the two slices of bread with cream cheese in place of butter. Cover with a layer of leaves, torn but not in small pieces. Cover with thick layer of sliced strawberries. Slice sandwich in half and enjoy.

● Clocks, Clarence Street, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey (081-974 5050).

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ENTERTAINING AT HOME

Rosa Monckton

Since we married last December and moved to Pimlico we've had lots of dinner parties. Our guests are always a whole mix of people: friends, business friends, family.

Although I am gregarious and love entertaining, I am not in any way a domesticated creature. I can't cook and it irritates me to have to spend time in the kitchen. Besides, when you have a big job, as I do, it's almost impossible to go home and start slaving. So while I love going to Berwick Street market and doing the shopping, I find I'm always exhausted afterwards and the thought of actually having to cook what I've bought is totally beyond me.

Now I've found this really sweet girl called Jane who does it all for me. She's great and never panics. If she needs extra help, she just gets somebody in. All of which means that entertaining nowadays is pure pleasure. In fact, I would entertain for breakfast, lunch, tea and dinner so long as I didn't have anything to do with the mechanics of it.

What I love best is shuffling the pack — putting very unlikely people together and seeing how they get on — and if it's confrontational, so much the better. At our last party, for example, we had the priest who married us — wearing his Benedictine robes — and Auberon Waugh. It all ended at two in the morning with a really heated discussion on the pros and cons of abortion. To

me a good evening is when you are left with a hard core of people who are so interested in the conversation they don't want to go home even though they have to work the next day.

Food definitely comes way down on my list of priorities, though drink is terribly important because it loosens people up. I leave the wine to Dominic who has a very good palate — he gets most of it from the Spectator Club. If we're feeling flush we'll probably give them champagne when they arrive — and always if it's a breakfast party at Tiffany's. Work and home entertaining tends to overlap. Sometimes I meet someone over the counter and we become good friends. I enjoy that.

Ours is one of those old Pimlico houses that has a room on each floor. I've decorated the dining room in an Arab way — I love that part of the world — and the ice is always immediately broken when people open the door and are absolutely astonished to see this Arabian tent with stars on the ceiling.

The drawing-room is quite different — huge, with tall windows, high ceiling and two fireplaces. I've done it in brilliant red, blue and ochre, so it looks very striking. There are lots of those little intimate areas where people can continue their dinner conversation without having to become part of a general group. The moment that happens someone always looks at his watch



Shuffler: Rosa Monckton

and says he has to go now. I must say, I hate people leaving.

Our house has an old-fashioned hoist up to the kitchen. The snag is that there does have to be someone there to receive it. If we're having a small dinner party, say for eight, Jane always leaves the food and goes home, which means that either Dominic or I have to run up and down all the time and it rather defeats the object. But I do love the sensation of pulling the rope. We even use the hoist if there's just Dominic and myself simply because we are both so clumsy — we break absolutely everything.

I always go to enormous trouble with flowers. I say to my display manager at Tiffany's: "Andrew, I'm having a dinner party tonight" and he

does them. He's a most talented boy. Again, I'm so bad at that sort of thing. Dominic's the same, except he does make the most wonderful hollandaise sauce — a most impressive achievement, I think.

Of course one of the most important things is candlelight. It makes everything look so romantic. Women in particular are always worrying about how they look, but in candlelight they can be completely natural and unself-conscious. We were lucky enough to be given as a wedding present from Tiffany two very large glass candlesticks made by a master glass blower in Murano called Saguso. On the walls we hang storm lanterns with candles in them. I love that camp-fire effect, that story-telling atmosphere. I feel very strongly that people talk differently under candlelight than under electric light. Fun and glamour are what entertaining's all about.

Another wedding present was a beautifully formal hostess record book which has headings like "Food Given" and "Gown Worn". We've resisted using it so far, but now I think we will. After all, when you have as many dinner parties as we do, it's got to be useful to know what you fed people.

Dominic Lawson's hollandaise sauce
makes enough for two
2 eggs
¾ oz butter
3tbsp white wine vinegar

Get rid of the egg whites and chop the butter into knobs. Reduce wine vinegar with cloves and pour it into the yolks on a bain marie. Whisk over simmering water while stirring in knobs of butter steadily. Now whisk vigorously, plonk it down and eat.

Interview by Paddy Bart
● Rosa Monckton, MD of Tiffany the jeweller, is married to Dominic Lawson, editor of The Spectator.

Season perfectly preserved

Frances Bissell, the *Times* cook, enjoys a traditional burst of midsummer pickling activity before the dog days arrive



FRIENDS who live near Modena in northern Italy will be busy this week. San Giovanni, the Feast of St John, also midsummer's day, is when walnuts are picked to make *nocino*, the traditional liqueur of the region.

Suave, dark and mellow with a powerful undertow, Angelo's home-made version has legendary powers. It is not a drink to be trifled with — a thimbleful on a winter's day will keep the cold out. I include a recipe today for those who have walnut trees. The bottling alcohol is the kind you buy in French grocers as *eau de vie de fruits*. You could use vodka or brandy, but the end result will not be quite the same.

Nocino (walnut liqueur)

(makes 1 litre)
25 whole green walnuts
1 litre bottle of alcohol
3in/7.5cm cinnamon stick
4 cloves
1 walnut leaf
1½lb/600g sugar

Cut each walnut into six longitudinal wedges and put them in a large glass preserving jar with the alcohol (use two or more smaller containers if necessary) and the spices. Seal the jar and leave it in a sunny, warm place for two months, shaking it from time to time. At the end of this period, strain the liquid through muslin or a fine sieve into a jug. Make a syrup with half the sugar and 2tbsp water, and in another saucepan caramelize the remaining sugar. When just brown, but not burnt, remove from the heat and carefully pour in the boiling syrup, stirring all the time. The mixture must not caramelize further. Allow it to cool, and mix the caramel syrup with the filtered walnut extract. Seal it back in the jar, and leave for 30-40 days more, shaking it occasionally, and then filter once more before bottling.

Traditionally, the liqueur is aged for a year and preferably two before drinking.

IN THE country, midsummer marks the final fling of activity before the lazy, dog days of July and August. In the kitchen it is time for pickling and preserving, as gardens and allotments move into full production. I have a faded piece of paper I found in an old cookery book. It reads: "Order extra salt for beans. Shallots — use earthenware 7lb jars. Put lavender to dry. Refill bags. Linen room, bathroom cupboards, shelves." I have rarely read anything quite so evocative of another, less demanding age.

Even though I have no garden full of beans and shallots waiting to bottle, and I shall have to beg lavender from friends with gardens, I mean to capture some of the flavour of an English summer. My

fishmonger sells samphire, which I shall preserve using a fairly sweet pickle mix. Fresh, it makes a wonderful first course on its own, quite as good as asparagus and best cooked in the same way, steamed and served with melted butter. And it is, of course, a superb accompaniment to fish and shellfish dishes.

Of all the herb vinegars, lavender is the one I like best, and I shall make a couple of bottles to last me until next summer. Nothing could be easier. Before it is fully opened, take a faggot of lavender and put in a bottle of white wine vinegar. Recork and leave, ideally on a sunny window sill for two to three weeks. The lavender can be removed or left in, as you wish.

I would also have a look at the flower garden, at roses for creams and sorbets, nasturtiums and marigolds for salads and flower butters, as well as nasturtium seeds for a caper-like pickle.

There are two ways to make flower butter. With nasturtiums or marigolds, where it is mainly the colour I want, I put the flower petals in a food processor with butter, blend until thoroughly mixed, and then refrigerate until needed. To make a rose or lavender butter, which makes an unusual addition to the teatable with warm scones, wrap a block of unsalted butter in muslin and bury it in a bowl of fresh flower petals.

IF YOU have a walnut tree, as well as *nocino*, you might also make a jar or two of pickled walnuts to serve with cold game dishes, ham and terrines in the autumn and winter. According to Henry Sarsen, whose 1940 book, *Home Pickling*, is one of my favourites, "only a pickled peach can beat a good pickled walnut, and not always then".

Pickling your own food means that you can flavour the vinegar as you wish and have the pickle as crisp or as soft as you like. Over the years, I have tried a variety of methods for pickling samphire, including cooking it slowly, blanching it briefly or pouring on a hot vinegar. I find that I like it best just salted and with a cold, almost unspiced vinegar poured over it. Thus the crispness is retained, even if the colour still fades.

To safeguard against spoilage, you need to use a strong vinegar of about 6 per cent to achieve a pickle of at least 3 per cent, bearing in mind that most vegetables have a high percentage of water. Malt vinegars and distilled or spirit vinegars can be used, and sherry vinegar is of the right strength but is more expensive, as is old wine vinegar. Non-brewed condiment is not a vinegar.

The pickling process involves immersion first in dry salt or brine to draw out as much water as possible from the fruit or vegetable, which would otherwise dilute the vinegar, and then immersion in

vinegar. This can be bought ready-flavoured, or you can make your own pickling vinegar.

Standard brine
5oz/140g salt
1pt/570ml water

Dissolve the salt in the water and use 1pt/570ml for each 1lb/455g vegetables. Small "drier" vegetables, such as capers, nasturtium seeds and samphire, can be given a dry salt treatment.

Pickling vinegar can be made in advance and kept until required. Because the fumes of hot vinegar are so pervasive, it is a good idea to make pickles on a day when you can have all the doors and windows open. This sweet pickle is the one I like to use for small cucumbers, onions and mixed vegetables. For samphire, which has such an elusive flavour, I leave out the ginger, dill and coriander, but keep the "sweet spices".

Sweet pickling vinegar
(makes 1pt/570ml)
1pt/570ml vinegar
6oz/170g light muscovado sugar
1in/2.5cm piece fresh ginger, peeled
6 cloves
piece of cinnamon
6 cardamom pods
12 whole allspice
½ tsp coriander seeds
½ tsp dill seeds

Put ½ pt/140ml vinegar, sugar and spices in a stainless steel saucepan, bring to the boil and simmer for 30 minutes. Remove from the heat and stir in the rest of the vinegar. Cool, strain and bottle.

Aromatic pickling vinegar
(makes 1pt/570ml)
1pt/570ml vinegar
1tbsp whole allspice
1 tsp coriander seeds
1 tsp cumin seeds
1 tsp mustard seeds
1 tsp black peppercorns
6 cloves
6 bay leaves
6 juniper berries, crushed

Proceed as above. This recipe is very good with walnuts, capers and nasturtium seeds. Hotter pickles can be made by increasing the amount of pepper, ginger and mustard seed, and with the addition of dried chillies.

HERE is a simple version of pickling walnuts. Leaving them in the sun is what gives them the characteristic blackness. The walnuts are usually ready in late June or early July. They must be picked before their case begins to harden and should be soft enough to insert the blunt end of a needle.

Pickled walnuts
(makes 2lb/900g)
2lb/900g green walnuts



2pt/1.15l standard brine (see previous recipe)
2pt/1.15l unstrained sweet pickling vinegar (see previous recipe)

Soak the walnuts in brine for four or five days, drain them and put in the sun for two to three days to dry and blacken, then pack them into jars. Pour boiling, sweet pickling vinegar over the walnuts and distribute the spices, evenly if possible. Cover and seal while still hot. The pickles should be kept for a month before using in order to be fully mature; they will keep unopened for one or two years.

Pickled samphire
(makes 2lb/900g)
2lb/900g samphire
6oz/170g coarse salt
up to 2pt/570ml cold, plain, sweet pickling vinegar (see previous recipe)

Pick over the samphire, discarding any soggy pieces and roots. Rinse

free of sand and mud, and gently towel dry. Put the samphire in a dish and sprinkle with salt. Leave overnight. Next day, drain and dry, pack into jars and pour the vinegar over. Cover and seal. This is ready to use within a few days and will also keep until next summer.

IF PICKLING does not appeal, gathering fresh herbs is a simple task and a fragrant one. My neighbour, Mona, sent over a bag of mixed herbs, bronze fennel, two kinds of mint, marjoram, chives, rosemary and lovage. I used some of them in a meal that I put together in less than 30 minutes. Admittedly, the first course was antipasto: Felino salami, Parma ham, miniature mozzarella, tomatoes with taste and French breakfast radishes. But in the end, which I had put on to boil for the pasta, I cooked courgettes and asparagus (to serve with olive oil),

which then produced a well-flavoured water for the pasta, to which I also added lovage and fennel stalks. This is the sauce I made for the pasta.

Herb and gorgonzola sauce
(serves 2)
handful of fresh herbs
a few grains of coarse salt
1-2 spring onions, chopped
1-2tbsp cream or crème fraîche
3-4oz/85-110g gorgonzola cheese

Tear up the herbs and put them in a mortar. Grind with the salt and spring onions, and then blend in the cream until you have a pale green paste. Stir this into freshly cooked, drained pasta, and then stir in the gorgonzola, which will immediately melt in the hot pasta. Serve immediately. I used chervil and basil in the sauce as well as fennel, lovage (good with blue cheese), chives and marjoram.

Fishing for a compliment

Dover sole needs little more than butter and lemon

LE REPERTOIRE de la cuisine, the indispensable manual for those working in a classical French kitchen, lists nearly 350 ways of preparing sole. Some sound less appealing than others. Sole Arctique, for example, has the sole poached in madeira, whisky, port and fish stock. The cooking liquor is reduced, hunter, cream, and a brunoise of truffles and vegetables is added, and the fish is coated with this sauce. Cecil Rhodes has a sole dish named after him: toasters, asparagus and truffles as did Louis XIV and XV, Alphonse XIII, Pierre le Grand and Nelson.

Cream, truffles, lobster, oysters, mushrooms and crayfish are frequently used as garnishes, but not all the dishes are so rich and complicated. Sole Bordelaise has the sole poached in white wine with shallots and then coated with the reduced cooking juices. Sole Bourguignonne, too, is delicious. I once ate it on the terrace at the Hôtel de Poste in Beaune, cooked

FRANCE

GREAT CLASSICS

SOLE A LA MEUNIÈRE

by M. Chevallier. The whole fish was poached in red burgundy this time, and the sauce made with the cooking juices, small onions and button mushrooms.

However, with our wonderful Dover sole, there are many, myself included, who believe that sole is at its best when cooked as simply as possible. Cooking it *à la meunière* shows it off to perfection.

This is not an easy dish to cook for more than two people unless you have several frying pans and some help with dishing up.

Sole à la meunière
(serves 2)
2 x 10-12oz/280-340g soles, skinned, cleaned and trimmed
½ pt/70ml milk
pinch of salt
2tbsp flour
freshly ground pepper
3oz/85g butter
1tbsp finely chopped parsley or chervil
lemon wedges

Put the milk in a shallow dish with the salt, and dip the fish in it, then in the flour, coating them well. Season lightly with pepper. Have the butter melted and hot, but not burning, in a frying pan, and fry the fish on both sides until done to your liking. Serve on heated plates with the butter poured over the fish, some chopped herbs and the lemon.

F.B.

Wines that grow old gracefully

Germany's Mosel wines are prized for their long life — but the young varieties are equally impressive

Wine-growers from the leading estates of the Mosel-Saar-Ruwer region of Germany treated me to two tastings on successive days recently. On the first day we tasted rarities, historic vineyards from the growers' own private cellars. On the second we tasted the same estates' current offerings.

The rarities were from vineyards as far back as 1937, with the youngest wine dating from 1979. Wilhelm Haag, president of the Grosser Ring founded in 1908 as an association of the elite estates owning the region's finest vineyards, introduced the wines with the uncompromising claim: "Ours are the longest lived wines in the world."

That could be disputed, but the tasting proved that, their reputation for lightness and delicacy notwithstanding, Mosel-Saar-Ruwer wines of past decades were built to last.

The vineyards on the steeply sloping, slatey banks of the Mosel and its two tributaries generally give wines that are less sweet and more refreshingly acidic than wines from other areas of Germany. The higher up the river courses you go, the more piercing the acidity generally becomes, and it is the acidity which lends long life to the wines and, Germans would claim, to those who drink them.

The tasting also gave the lie to the claim advanced by champions of Germany's generally dislikeable *rocken* wines that fine German wines

were traditionally vinified dry. The wines we were shown almost all had considerable residual sweetness, and could not have retained their vitality and appeal without it.

I still remember the first Mosel wine I ever drank, as a schoolboy on a Rhine cruise in the 1950s. I was given a glass by a German vicar, who must have been a connoisseur. It tasted like summer lightning.

I relived the experience 35 years on, tasting S.A. Prüm's 1957 Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling *natur* which would now be called a Kabinett, still bright, refreshing and cleansing after all that time. Greater delights were to follow. From 17 wines in the tasting, I awarded marks reserved for outstanding to exceptional wines to no fewer than six. I found Weingut Forstmeister Gatz-Zilliken's 1971 Saarburger Rausch Riesling Auslese particularly opulent, powerful, rich and gummy. Weingut Mönchhof's 1969 Erdener Treppchen Riesling feine Auslese was elegantly creamy and deliciously juicy, while Jos. Prüm's 1949 Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese had the astonishing and unimpeachable purity that people must sense when they scent the odour of sanctity. Then there was the searing classical brilliance of Schloss Saarstein's 1971 Riesling Beerenauslese.

The oldest wine, Herr Haag's 1937 Brauneberger Juffer Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese, did not score quite so

highly. It had taken on the burnish of old gold and a taste of whisky marmalade, yet remained delectable and lively after 55 years.

My highest marks went to a powerful and ripe 1973 Scharzhofberger Riesling Auslese Eiswein from the Weingut Egon Müller-Scharzhof, and to a 1976 Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese from the Weingut Maximilianhof Studert-Prüm. To sip this last wine, a piercingly lucid and luscious dessert wine, was a glorious experience, and I do not for a moment doubt the suggestion put forward by Gerd Studert, who presented the wine, that it is good for at least another 50 years.

Do present-day offerings measure up? My impression is that some do. The 1991 vintage is lighter than its three excellent predecessors, but has produced abundant Kabinett wines of slender and supple charm. There are outstanding, rich and powerful wines to be had from the super vineyards of 1988, 1989 and 1990.

I was particularly impressed with the superb wines of Joh. Jos. Prüm. Though Herr Doktor Manfred Prüm, who is now in charge, thought it too early to show any of his 1991s, the estate's 1990s are superbly rich, clean and delicious. I again had very high marks for the Weingut Mönchhof, whose 1991 Urziger Würzgraben Riesling Kabinett I found exceptionally character-



Fruitful slopes: the steep and slatey banks of the Mosel

ful and spicy for the vintage, and I still very much liked the wines from Weingut Zilliken (formerly Forstmeister Gatz), especially a 1989 Saarburger Rausch Riesling Auslese distinguished with a *lange Goldkapsel* (long gold capsule, the winemakers' way round the law banning terms such as "feinste Auslese") and a searingly effective 1991 Saarburger Rausch Riesling Eiswein.

Zilliken's wines are stocked by members of the Merchant Vintners' Group and Ballantynes of Cowbridge; Joh. Jos. Prüm's are imported by O.W. Loeb of 64 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1 0AS; and Weingut Mönchhof are imported by Loeb and by Richards Walford of Manor House, Pickworth,

Stamford, Lincolnshire, and well represented in the lists of Lay & Wheeler and the Wine Society.

Others among these top Mosel estates, though, are no longer represented in Britain. Their fine wines have been lost to us in a tide of Liebfraumilch and oversulphured sugar water masquerading as "quality" wine on supermarket shelves. The message I brought away from my two tastings is that top-flight Mosel wines are not only long-lived. They are also delightful and delicious for drinking now. Without more ado I am going to adjourn to have a slice of duck pâté and a glass of Auslese. Why don't you join me?

ROBIN YOUNG

Best buys

● 1990 Serriger Schloss Saarsteiner Riesling Kabinett, Summerlee Wines, Earls Barton, Northants, £6.31 Wine of scintillatingly sharp distinction from the Saar valley, incisive, refreshing, delicious.

● 1989 Urziger Würzgraben Riesling Kabinett, Mönchhof, Lay & Wheeler, £7.31 Fresh, pure, stylish wine with long, ripe flavours of flowers and honey. From the first of three exceptional Mosel vineyards, a classic example of the world's lightest fine wine.

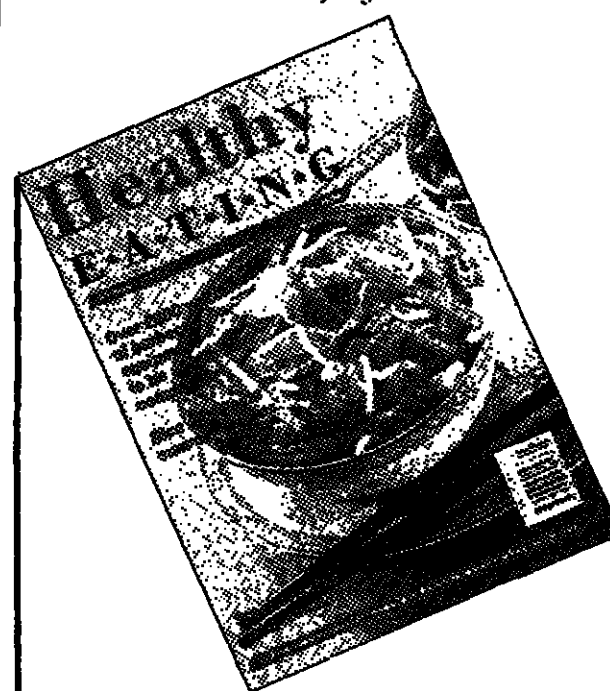
● 1990 Urziger Würzgraben Riesling Spätlese, Mönchhof, Lay & Wheeler, £11.35 Very flavoursome, marmalade wine, with an exotically spicy and powerful complexity of flavours.

● 1990 Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese, Fritz Haag, Lay & Wheeler, £18.15 Exclusively ripe, round, rich wine from a master wine-maker. Drink this with ham, duck, turkey, foie gras or fruit tarts.

● 1983 Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Spätlese, Joh. Jos. Prüm, Wine Society, £14.80 J.J. Prüm's peerless wines are always backward in development, but well worth waiting for. This splendid example is now ready to drink, and immaculate.

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July Issue



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Making hay in the old-fashioned way is no picnic

FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

I bet that I have only to mention that we are making hay, with carthorses, for some of you to swoon. There is something about this potent combination of images which turns grown men and women soppy and forces them into making rash promises — "We'd love to help, just give us a ring" — which are hardly ever fulfilled.

But perhaps it is just as well. If they were to arrive full of enthusiasm they would surely go home heartbroken. I am sorry to say that there is little in haymaking which fulfils the promise of lazy, hazy days under a golden sun and stolen kisses under the stack by night.

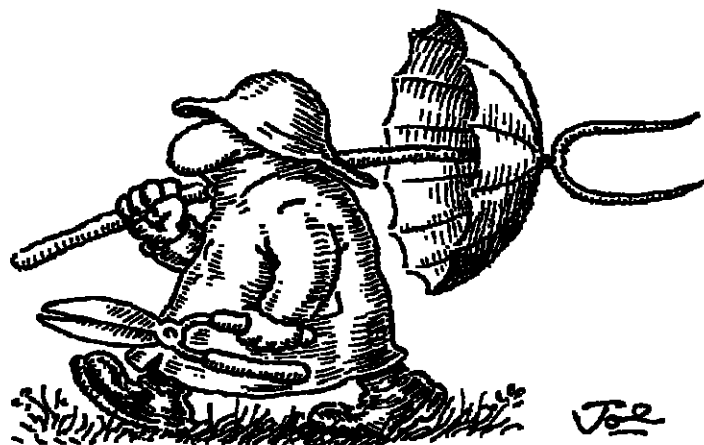
The rural literature of the 1940s and 1950s is probably to blame. This was the period when the tractor was finally in charge, the horse on its last legs, and creeping nostalgia starting to eclipse the memory of the sheer bloodiness of making hay. To quote one exam-

ple: "Haymaking, or hay-sel, is a joyous time... the most exhilarating of farming occasions... hay-sel was a yearly picnic... little children turned out to make merry... the cuckoo's call comes fresh across the meadow... Well, I have made hay in the old-fashioned way for a mere four years now, but on the basis of my experience and conversations with old men who used to toil at this annual 'picnic', few hayseals are remembered with much affection.

This year's has certainly been one to forget. It started promisingly with a lush crop of grass that flourished through the wet, thunderous weather of a few weeks ago. Then the hint of a settled spell of drying winds and hot sunshine



made me drag the horse-drawn clipper from the shed. But it had not mown ten yards of grass when a depressingly loud crack guaranteed that no more would be mown that day: the cutting knife had shattered. Now, it is no problem to get a spare for a modern mower, but ours is 50 years old and I could spend a whole year turning over junk heaps and rummaging through auctions before I found another blade. Thankfully, Farmer White was generous enough to spend the whole of a hot Sunday morning welding together the steel jigsaw. I didn't have the heart to tell him that no sooner was the knife back in business than the wooden swingletree, to which the horses are attached, splintered into shards of



worm-eaten wood at the first hint of a "gee-up".

Somehow we got around the six-acre field, almost. With a tiny postage-stamp of grass left standing, the mower came to another

halt. But the irritating patch was too large to be ignored. I got out the garden shears and, in a temper, cut it down. Romantically minded passers-by gazed approvingly over the hedge. I swore at them.

This was the moment when the weather turned against me. The forecasts of sunny, settled spells gave way to hints of showers. But I pressed on, turning the grass with our vintage rake until it was nearly dry, twisting bundles between my hands to see if they might be dry enough to stack, and contemplating the sweaty work of pitching all this dry grass on to the wagon and building a haystack.

The whole operation was made even more depressing by the sight of modern haymaking in a field on the other side of the farm. I decided that we had so much grass this year that it was beyond what I could manage, and so modern machinery was brought in. It never gives me pleasure to see a tractor on this land; it drowns the atmosphere, disturbs the peace, and sets a thunderous pace to which we are not attuned. It is even more irritating to see it charging along

with its powerful mower cutting seven acres in a few hours while we are bent double trying to find a vital bit of chain in the long grass.

We could have cut the whole lot with the horses eventually. But the cost of hiring men to do the stacking and carting jobs hardly anyone wants to do would make it the most expensive hay in Britain.

I take comfort that this is not a novel problem. In his *Farmer's Year* in 1899, Rider Haggard writes that he had scarcely afford to put so much labour into the land which will not pay the price.

So we are doing as much as we can afford and all we ask is to be given a break. Every square robs the mown grass of a little of its goodness, and even if it should spoil completely, we shall still have the gloomy job of carting the mess off the field. And as I write, the chilly wind is whipping up more rain-laden clouds. Some picnic.

Take a step in the right direction

Put your walking shoes on and join Family Rambling Day, Lee Rodwell says

Catherine and Andrew Fellingham did little walking for pleasure until three years ago, when Andrew's parents persuaded them to take part in Family Rambling Day. Now the Fellinghams, along with their son Nicholas, aged three, and baby Rachael, 20 months, look forward to getting out of London and exploring the countryside.

"It's something we can all do together," Mrs Fellingham says. "It doesn't cost much and it's been nice to rediscover the pleasures of the countryside. We tend to head for Kent or Surrey and we plan our own circular walks. Andrew carries Rachael on his back, but Nicholas can do about four miles now, although there have been times when he's ended up on Andrew's shoulders as well."

"We only have a small garden in south London, so Nicholas enjoys being able to run about and I enjoy pointing out new things to him. Even farm animals are a novelty."

This year's Family Rambling Day, organised by the Ramblers' Association and sponsored by Ordnance Survey, took place in Scotland last Sunday, and will be held in England and Wales tomorrow. There are 200 different events on offer. Catherine Gunningham, the Ramblers' assistant director, says: "All 200 walks have been designed with the family in mind. Most are between three and six miles long, and many are accessible to baby buggies."

Helping children to learn how to

use a map and compass is the underlying theme of the day, and at each walk an experienced ramblers — or in some cases, a member of the Ordnance Survey staff — will be on hand to help interested youngsters with route-finding skills.

All children taking part will also be given an activity sheet. On the back will be details of a map-drawing competition, open to three age ranges — under eight, eight-11 and 12-15. Children will be asked to draw their own map either of the Family Rambling Day route they have followed, or any other favourite walk they do with their family or friends. The winner of each section will get a Young Rambler's Adventure Kit, including boots, rucksack and waterproofs.

Map reading is, of course, now part of the National Curriculum but John Leonard, the marketing director at Ordnance Survey, believes it is also as essential to children as learning to swim. "It gives them both safety and independence," he says.

Children also find it fun. Ian Grimwood, a local walk leader in Nottinghamshire, recently held a special Kids' Day at the village school in Lambey, teaching children the basics of map reading and route planning. He says: "We spent the morning working out what we wanted to see and how to work out our route. Then in the afternoon the children led the walk themselves. Everyone had a great time."

Patricia Greenland and her daughter Anne-Marie are looking



Up and over: all 200 country walks planned for tomorrow have been designed with the family in mind. The emphasis will be on fun as well as learning and fitness

forward to a great time on Family Rambling Day. Ms Greenland, who lives in Frimley, Surrey, picked up a leaflet about a family ramble in her library four years ago, when Anne-Marie was just four. "It was wonderful," she says. "The children were given a page of clues and questions. They had to spot flowers, count stiles. Anne-Marie loved it and we've been going on rambles ever since."

"It's an ideal way to get children out and about and to teach them about the environment."

Lynne Laxton agrees. She and her husband, David, from Melton Mowbray, have been walking with their children for the past three

years. She explains: "I was part of a group of mothers with young children who used to go swimming together. One of the other mums was secretary of the local branch of the Ramblers' Association — and she persuaded us to go along to a Family Rambling Day."

"David and I hadn't done any walking a try — and Family Rambling Day is a good way to start. You walk at a nice easy pace, and there are other children for your own to chat to. You don't need to take much with you, apart from a drink and a snack — and a nappy change if you've got a little one."

Mrs Fellingham says that the simplicity of walking is part of its joy. "Nicholas used to have a proper pair of walking boots, but now he's outgrown them I just make sure he's wearing something

comfortable. He loves it. There is always something to keep him going — a spy ahead, a cow in the next field. And I get as much pleasure in pointing things out to him as he does in discovering the countryside."

For details of your nearest Family Rambling Day walk, call 071-582 6878. Ramblers' Association, 1-5 Wandsworth Road, London SW8 2XX.

Highlighted family events:
 □ Surrey: Map reading in the Devil's Punch Bowl and a visit to a youth hostel with the Godalming and Haslemere group. Meet at 10am, National Trust car park, Devil's Punch Bowl, Hindhead. Contact Barrie Howard (0428 654603).

□ Somerset: Orienteering for all with the South Somerset group. Meet 10.30am at Swanhead School, Dilton. Contact: Andrew Hoskins (0935 22448).

□ Avon: Lollipop hunt and parachute games with the Bristol group. Meet 11am, Information Centre, Ashton Court. Contact: Tom Chown (0272 623200).

□ South Yorkshire: Teddy bears walk with the Rotherham Metro District group. Meet 2.30pm, Penworth Garden Centre, Wentworth Park. Contact: Pamela Jones (0709 571513).

□ South Wales: Molecatching, teddy bears' picnic with the Vale of Glamorgan group. Meet 10.30am, Woods main car-park, nr Cowbridge. Roger Milon (0446 773854).

Swan song for the old bird names

Feather report

The Warden of birding is a magazine entitled *British Birds*. It is appropriately serious, dedicated and professional, and is read by all serious bird people. In the latest edition, readers are asked to vote on some aspects of the proposed rationalisation of bird names. Well, do you go for bearded tit, or do you prefer reading? Stone-curlew, or perhaps Eurasian thick-knee? Rufous nightingale, or Eurasian thick-knee? Well, it may be rational to some people but the weird-voiced, goggle-eyed, long-legged porter of the Brecklands in Norfolk will always be a stone curlew to me. I cannot change my apprehension of the bird overnight.

There is a continuing urge to bring order to the chaos of British bird names. Certainly, there is no system to it: it is a mess of folk-names and ornithological coinages, and at times downright misleading.

People want to clear it all up. Example: farwell robin, hello, European robin. Euro-robin? The process seems as faceless and as draconian as anything that comes from Brussels.

Words such as common and European and northern and Eurasian proliferate in front of old friends such as cuckoos and nightjars and lapwings. Other suggestions are more drastic: Bewick's swan to be a tundra swan, arctic skua to become a parasitic skua (and that is tautological for a start), and a dipper to be a white-throated dipper.

There is something the non-scientist resents quite bitterly in all this. A name is something more than a piece of verbal furniture, identification for the use of. A name is part of the thing itself. "And so was waited to my ears the name of Gilberte, bestowed to me like a talisman which might, perhaps, enable me some day to rediscover her whom its syllables had just endowed with a definite personality."

That is Marcel Proust, who was very hot on names. He would have suffered one of his endless disappointments if he heard that the little ringed plover was denuded to a mere ringed plover, and would have written volumes more if told that the fan-tailed warbler might become a zitting



Exit Bewick, enter tundra: one of the proposed changes

cisticola. The moral, I think, is that real science lives apart from the casual sloppiness of everyday English. British bird names are part of everyday language, and they have evolved, as it were, organically. A vernacular name is not a formal thing: it is part of what a thing is. It is there to be used in casual conversation, to be shortened for convenience and altered as a sign of intimacy.

Birders have all kinds of nicknames for birds. The little LRP, Red-breasted flycatcher are RB flickers. Rock pips and meadow pips are abbrevi-

ated to rockers and mippis. If twitches say they have had an icy, peck-sand and buff-bee, congratulate them; they have seen icterine warbler, pectoral sandpiper and buff-breasted sandpiper. People talk about comic terms, if they cannot tell a common from an arctic term. Will scientists rationalise nicknames next? Not likely but; not RB flicker but RB fly? It makes just as much sense as what they are already doing.

There is also a question of history. *British Birds* asks readers to vote on whether White's thrush should become a scaly thrush. The bird was

named for Gilbert White, the pioneer naturalist and clergyman, he of *The Natural History of Selbourne*. His departure from the bird list would be a sad thing indeed.

I have said that vernacular names are chaotic and illogical: that is the way of non-technical language. A technical language is necessary. But it already exists, and it works all over the world.

If the proposal for name changes has done me any good, it is in applying myself more to scientific names. This is an international technical language, and when birding abroad, even in English-speaking countries, I have found a nodding acquaintance with the Latin name a huge help. Rationalised names already exist: I am not sure that renaming the bird of the garden shovel a Euro-robin is a rational step.

SIMON BARNES

What's about: *Birders* — listen squawks of young *lawny* owls venturing out. *Twitchers* — red-kneed phalarope in Kirby on Bain, Lincs: lesser crested tern with two hybrid young (the other parent is a Sandwich tern) on Farnie islands, Northumberland. Details from *Birdline*, 0898 700222.

Gardens to visit

□ Gloucestershire: Barnsley Park, Barnsley House and village gardens. Barnsley, today, 10am-6pm; tomorrow, noon-5.30pm. £3, child under 14 free, or £10 per car.

□ Isle of Arran: Brodick Castle has a splendid woodland garden with streams and pools. The formal gardens have been restored in Victorian style. Summer house, fully, fine walks and views. Brodick Castle (0175 33735), ferry from Ardrossan. Open daily 10am-dusk. Garden and park, £2, child £1 (incl castle, £3, child £1.50).

Norwich (0603 743101), Wed-Thur, 8am-6pm. £6, cones £2, family £12.

□ Pevensey fair: Variety of arts and crafts on display and for sale. Pevensey Castle, East Sussex (0323 763604), today and tomorrow, 10am. £3, cones £2.25, child £1.50.

□ Windsor dog show: Breeds include working dogs, terriers and gun dogs. Home Park, Datchet Road, Windsor, Berks (0753 380633), Fri-July 5, 10am. £3, child £1.

□ Wisley festival: Annual celebration of the flower. Royal Horticultural Society, Wisley, Surrey (0463 224234), Wed-Thur, 10am-7pm. £5.95.

□ Colchester croquet: The Eastern championships, with top teams competing. Croquet Club, Elianore Road, Colchester, Essex (0206 263223), Mon-July 6, 9.30am. Free.

□ Durham trailing: Guided National Trust walk around the Blast Beach area. Hawthorne Dene, Durham (091-581 3905), Tomorrow, 2pm. £1, child free.

□ Framlingham drama: "The Bard's Best Bits" — two 40-min versions of *Richard III*. Framlingham Castle, Suffolk (0728 723300), Tomorrow, 2pm and 4pm. £2.50, cones £1.75, child £1.

□ Royal Norfolk show: Heavy horses, ponies, shires, showjumping. The Showground, Dereham Road.

Events

□ Bridlington livestock Show includes almost 200 classes of covies, pigeons, rabbits and sheep. Dog show and crafts. Sowerby Hall, Bridlington, E. Yorks (0262 678255), Tomorrow, 10.30am. £1.60, cones £1.20.

□ Brockenham polo: Tournament includes the St James's Cup. New Park, Brockenham, Hants (0590 23205/23409), Today, 2.30pm. Free.

□ Cumbria showjumping: Leading equestrians go for the £8,000 prize-money. Rickerby Park, Carlisle, (0228 561957), Today and tomorrow, 9am.

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROS DRINKWATER

WHERE TO STAY



Worth every franc: the stylish interior of family-run Le Maquis, a real "find"

- **Le Maquis**, 20166 Porticcio (95 25 05 55). This is my find of the year. Family-operated, swimming-pools, tennis court, sandy beach. Expensive but worth it. Suites for two, half-board, from £264 a night, double room from £200.
- **La Caravelle**, 20260 Calvi (95 65 01 21). Small family-run hotel, clean, simple food, small garden, friendly staff. Double room, h/b, £80.
- **Hotel du Monte D'Oro**, Vizzavona, 20219 Col de Vizzavona (95 47 21 06). Virtually unchanged for 20 years, comfortable, spartan in the way of a boarding school. Double room, h/b, £79.
- **Hotel Pietracap**, 20300 Pietranera, Bastia (95 31 64 63). Modern hotel set in attractive gardens; good swimming-pool. Room only, double, from £52.
- **Pasotel E Caselle**, 20231 Venaco (95 47 03 01). Set in mountain scenery, farmhouse style. Double room only, from £40.
- **Eden Rock**, Route des Iles-Sanguinaires, 20000 Ajaccio (95 52 01 47). Professional hotel with marvellous coastal views, jacket and tie requested for dinner. Double room, h/b, £184.
- **Hotel la Villa**, 20260 Calvi (95 65 10 10). Incomparable view of Calvi, understated elegance, good food, smooth service. Double room, h/b, £216.
- Recommended campsites from tourist offices: Ajaccio, 6 Park Belvedere (95 21 19 87); Bastia, Place St Nicholas (95 31 81 34); Calvi, Port de Plaisance (95 65 16 67); Corte, Lieu-Dit Citadelle (95 26 41 31); Porticcio, Marina Viva (95 25 07 02).

WHEN TO GO

MAY is the best month for wild flowers and a modest heat (20C). September is an equally attractive month after the hordes have fled. Best to avoid July and August, when roads are crowded and it is virtually impossible to find impromptu accommodation.

Check the dates of motor rallies, when it is advisable to avoid mountain roads. Local tourist offices will supply details of festivals, but note in Calvi on Good Friday the great penitents' procession, and from August 15-18 the festival of the Assumption of the Virgin, with three days of games, fireworks and processions.

HOW TO GET THERE

MICHAEL Watkins's itinerary was tailor-made by Falcon Corsica (part of Owners Abroad Holidays), which has been market leader to Corsica for a decade. Flights were with Air 2000.

Falcon Corsica's summer '92 programme offers a choice of 12 resorts, a new range of two-centre options, and "Freewheeler" holidays, combining a car with accommodation vouchers for use at a number of hotels on the island.

Flights are from Gatwick and Manchester; prices start at £179 for adults and £79 for children for seven nights in Calvi, depending on dates of travel.

Reservations: 071-221 6298. Brochure requests: 0293 522311. Europcar offers a Peugeot 106 at about £195 for seven days. Available at Calvi airport.

WHAT TO READ

THE most useful guide I could lay my hands on was *Corse*, published by Editions Marcus, 15 rue Faraday, 75017 Paris. The great classic *Grande Island* by Dorothy Carrington — published in 1984 by Penguin Travel Library — is a splendid book but extremely difficult to get. First researched in the 1940s, its author still lives in Ajaccio. Fodor's *France* includes a small, useful section on Corsica. Michelin Green Guide is available in French. *Landscapes of Corsica* compiled by Noel Rochford (Sunflower Books, £6.95) is informative on car tours, walks and picnics.

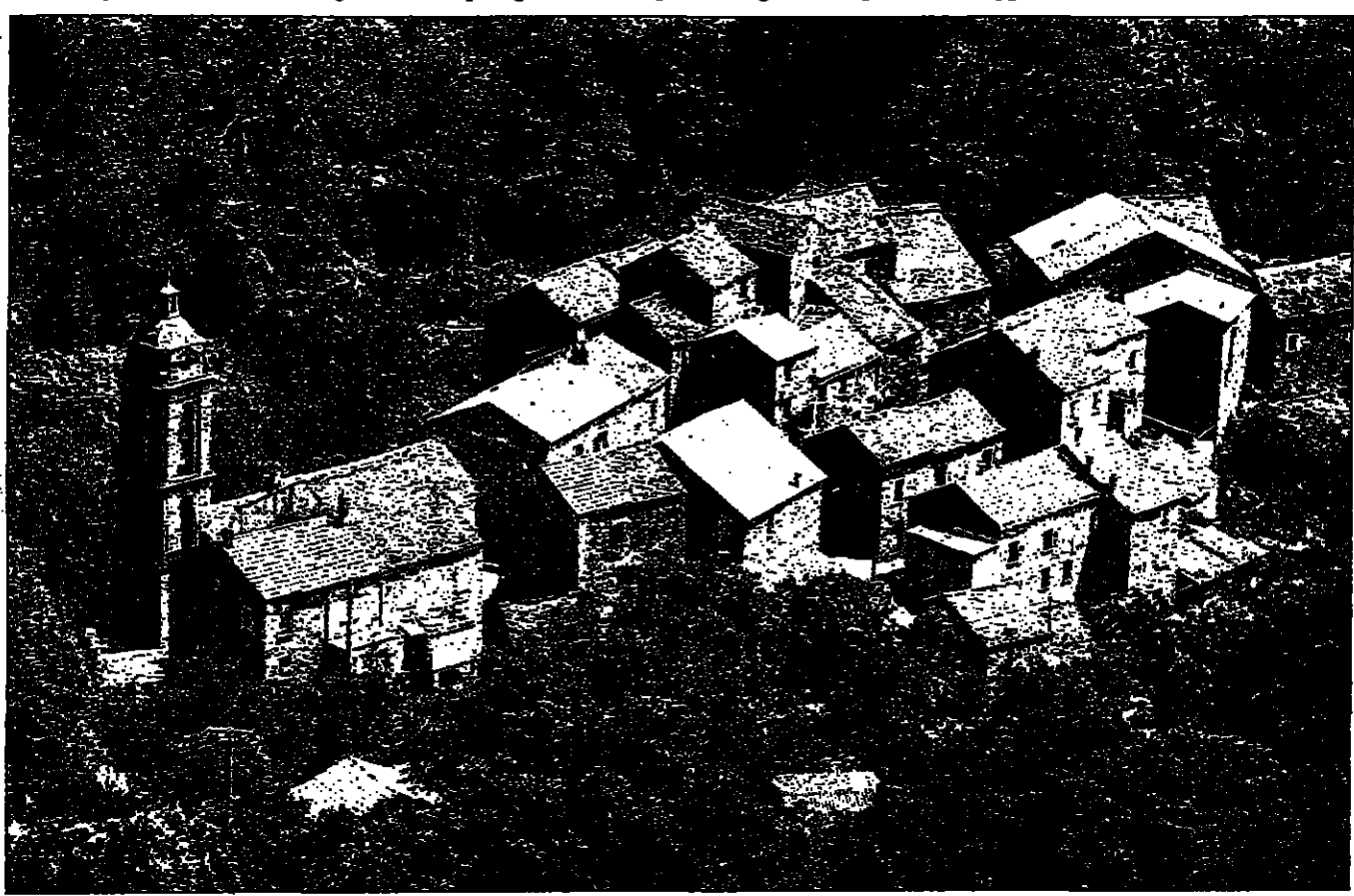
WHAT TO DO

SEE the coast from the sea: especially the Calanques of Scandola, the northern limit of Corsica's Natural Regional Park, inaccessible by road, inhabited by rare species of eagles and seagulls. Reservations from Calvi Quai Landry, (95 65 28 16). Water-skiing at Les Marines, Porticcio (95 25 02 40). Golf at Cala Stella (95 60 75 52). Riding at Calvi (95 65 22 22). Riding at Porticcio (95 25 11 05). The giant aquarium at L'Île-Rousse (95 60 27 81). All such information from local tourist offices.

See the island by train: Opened in 1888, 230km of track, 12 bridges, 38 tunnels. Starts at sea level, cuts through Corsica's heart, culminating at Vizzavona, then returning to sea level. The most famous viaduct is the Pont du Vecchio, 96m high, built by Gustave Eiffel in 1888.



Boats crowd the harbour at Calvi in high season, but in May's "white spring" a scented peace reigns, heady with eucalyptus, lavender and woodsmoke



riably fresh from the sea, and in the village of Bustanico (right), nothing has altered — despite the arrival of television in 1972 — since the Dark Ages

the Mediterranean and the continent. I visited Ajaccio's market, I met Napoleon's birthplace, I bet nothing truly original. Those awful and narrow Empire streets and narrow Empires, a few old medallions, a mask, the ticket-seller guides wet dehumanised; spectators idiosyncratic. I was up there with Napoleon. I paid respect to his memory once or all the time I went to Les îles, where his ashes lie in coffins. I didn't realise it was so much of him. I saw earth good thinking, rms of distance in Corsica, is of the essence. There was a true in returning to Calvi, I had one, so I took the road back the distance 186km, the time, excluding p for lunch was four and a hours of goat-tracking. It was glorious drive.

On my Richter scale of memorable drives, it must rate pretty near the top. But you must concentrate; it is a wicked, wicked way down; and the Corsican brothers drive as if they have infallible faith in the resurrection.

I stopped for lunch at Galeria, a fishing village stranded on the tides of progress: it had a wide bay, a cemetery with a terrific view, it was very calm. *Le loup de mer* was basic, the waitress unsmiling. I ate *moules*, dunking bread into gungy sauce. After which I stunk of garlic.

On the final lap to Calvi across the maquis, I let loose my imagination, which traversed a time zone to a cluster of stone cottages, harsh and forboding, with black-shrouded women whispering in doorways. The

men are idle, mentally, physically idle, many carrying carbines because they are hunters. A quarrel starts — a question of trespass or a virgin's honour. A shot explodes into the choking silence and, as a body crumples into the dust, a figure runs for the maquis. The dead man's family are blooded with his gore, as is the custom, and the declaration of vendetta is sworn: "*Garde-toi, je me garde*". The *bandit d'honneur* will pursue vengeance until the last of his days, and then his profane destiny will pass to his son and his grandson.

Peace rules Corsica today; yet something ruthlessly assertive remains in remote villages like Bustanico, so that you drive away feeling that you have seen only what you intended to see. You can still buy stilettos with "Death to my enemy" inscribed upon the blades.

olive mills, with original machinery intact, that would convert to attractive holiday homes. Many include sizeable acreages, and fetch from £40,000.

Seaside villas and apartments start at £25,000 for a one-bedroom flat and £50,000 for a small modern house at the edge of a beach. More exclusive homes, with neatly manicured lawns, five or six bedrooms and private pools, cost from £120,000.

The largest port on the island is Bastia; Ajaccio, Napoleon's birthplace, is the capital. You can take the car ferry from Nice (six and a half hours) or Marseilles (11 hours) to Bastia, Ajaccio and Calvi, but the cheapest and most convenient way to get to Corsica is by air. Charter flights operate from Gatwick, Manchester or Stansted to Bastia, Calvi or Ajaccio, from March to October. Alternatively, you can fly from Paris, Nice or Marseilles.

CHERYL TAYLOR

● One of the few UK agents with associates on the island is Corsica Properties, Great Beach, Bartle, east Sussex (04246 4363).

EATING OUT

● Considering Corsica's influences from Genoa and France, its food is a disappointment. Referring to a not-unknown restaurant, one guide mentions the "accurate cooking". In my experience, it is more miss than hit.

● I ate memorably well at Le Maquis in Porticcio: try the ragout d'oignons des paysans, tartare de poissons au caviar and *flan de poitrine de veau aux olives de Balagua* — all house specialities.

● The recently opened Hotel La Villa at Calvi is rapidly gaining a reputation: brilliant duck in honey sauce, superb warm salads. Restaurant Scudella in Corte's Place Paoli came up with a not-bad omelette made from wild mushrooms. The Eden Rock near Ajaccio was dull; the best they could think of the night I was there was chicken with a curry sauce. By and large it is best to stick to simple stuff: fairly reliable fish soup, onion soup, omelettes, *moules*, lobster (expensive), local pâtés, goat cheese, fresh fish. Eating out is not cheap either: think in terms similar to provincial Britain.

● Unless you are fussy, go along with the local wines from Patrimonio, Balagne, Ajaccio, Sartene, Figari, Porto-Vecchio. You won't want a thumping red wine in the heat, so try the white — or best of all, the pink. The Patrimonio costs about £9.

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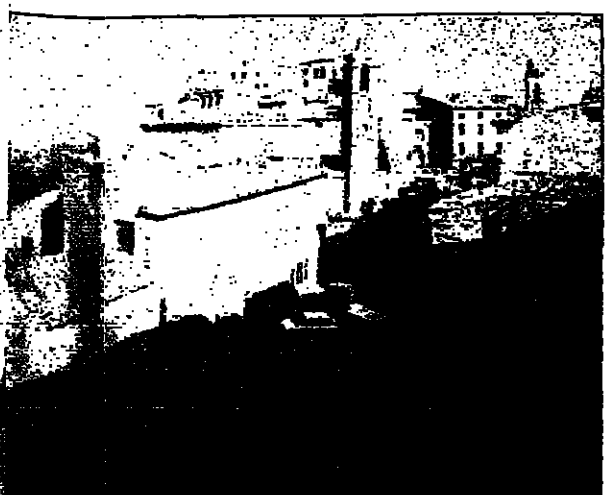
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of old stone houses for sale on the mountainous island

pink, with thick walls, the roof tiles, misshapen shutters and huge fireplaces. Many include underground wine vaults and old houses with red ovens and hexagonal ovens, and cost from £20,000 upwards. Because of constant fear of attack from gign invaders, these old houses were traditionally topped into small hamlets,

and there are few isolated properties.

Large country houses some distance inland, in need of renovation, with an acre or two of vines and fruit trees, can still be found for about £50,000. Fully restored, with three or four bedrooms and a swimming-pool, these cost from £90,000, a mile or so from the sea. There are also a few old unconverted

Rosemary Alexander's Kent home provides a perfect setting to inspire green fingers in her gardening students, Eluned Price writes

Ancient seat of garden learning

Rosemary Alexander's country house is a 15th-century timber-framed hall house in Kent, rented from the National Trust and open to the public twice a week. The gang of labourers in Stoneacre's delightful gardens double-digging a trench to near-perfection have not been posted there by the nearest open prison. They are Mrs Alexander's students from the English Gardening School, which she runs at the Chelsea Physic Garden in London. "They might look like a chain-gang," she laughs, "but actually they enjoy their time down here." Both garden design and practical horticulture are part-time courses based at Chelsea. Here, with an acre of cultivated garden of England, three acres of wild garden and a couple of fields, students can practise until their fingers turn green.

Mrs Alexander found Stoneacre four years ago. "We'd sold our farm in Essex and had a small house in London," she says. "I was becoming perfectly neurotic and couldn't survive without the country." Everything she saw was "a beautiful house in a ghastly place or vice versa. Then I saw Stoneacre. One glimpse through the wrought-iron gates and it was the whole intake-of-breath bit." Twenty out of 200 eager applicants went before a National Trust panel, "and we didn't get it." The new tenants took only six weeks to discover it was too much for them, so the Alexanders have been there ever since.

Stoneacre was given to the trust in 1928 by Aymer Vallance, an architectural aesthete who had restored the house using panelling, fireplaces and windows from other buildings and adding an entire Tudor wing, salvaged from North Bore Place. The Great Hall, of double height, is spanned by a giant oak tie-beam from which is suspended an ancient iron candelabra. Dinners in the Great Hall are lit only by its candles and the flicker of firelight from the vast stone chimney piece.

Despite sharing repairs — the trust is responsible for structural and the Alexanders for cosmetic — the rent is "fairly commercial". When they arrived the walls were spinach green and bitter chocolate brown, "because the previous tenant made lace" (these colours are the best against which to show lace). The contract to open the house twice a week is not as burdensome as it might seem. "You get used to it," Mrs Alexander says. "And we are very lucky in having volunteer guides and stewards from the trust's mid-Kent centre. Now we open the parlour and the solar, an upstairs room where the ladies customarily took the sun, as well." The solar doubles as Mrs Alexander's main guest room. "On open days they have to have their beds made by 1pm. I go and check," she says. When the grand-



Finding a country beauty: "When I saw Stoneacre," Rosemary Alexander says, "one glimpse through the wrought-iron gates and it was the whole intake-of-breath bit"

children — six of them under the age of four and a half — are in residence, a "Private" notice is slung over the gate to the grassed courtyard at the back, "and they can run in and out all day".

A grass path leads to the summerhouse in the wild garden, where the land falls away through the apple orchards to two ponds. There are two main gardens partially divided, as the house was at one time, by a Kentish ragstone wall. At the front, with a cobbled stone path running to the heavy oak door, is Mrs Alexander's

spring and autumn garden, all of yew hedges and blue, with a mature ginkgo tree overhanging the lawn and a burst of philadelphus now throwing arcs of white, gold-hearted blossom over the wall.

"We inherited the framework of yew hedges and old wall," Mrs Alexander says. "It was nice not to have to spend ten years creating the structure." Stoneacre had not been lived in for three years when she arrived, and the garden was all nettles and brambles and ground elder. "It had been neglected long enough for the ecological balance

to sort itself out and it was full of bees and butterflies and birds. We try not to upset that, using weedkiller only on the paths but organic sprays for everything else."

She had begun planning before she discovered old reports on the garden by the horticulturalist Graham Stuart Thomas, adviser to the trust. "I was thrilled to find he'd suggested many of the plantings I planned, like lots of limey *Euphorbia robbiae* either side of the gate. I was convulsed by his polite recommendations that the football posts

on the main lawn be removed and the hens penned in."

The summer garden takes in the Tudor addition and runs around the side of the house, but Mrs Alexander has made no attempt at horticultural Tudor purism. "Much too dull," she says. "There were hardly any plants then anyway, except loads of Alexanders, a very boring kale-type vegetable." It is filled with masses of cottage flowers, such as columbine and foxglove, feverfew and lady's mantle, which holds the dew on the invisible down of its soft green leaf.

The buff brushes of fox-tail lilies wave against the wall of the house, thyme and pinks seed between the stones of the paths and old-fashioned roses, such as the double pale pink Celestial and the flat carmine flowers of Roseaie de l'Hay, send wafts of sweet scent through the air. There are no climbers trained up the house: "The architecture is so enchanting it doesn't need statuary or ornament in any way."

● Stoneacre, Otford, nr Maidstone, Kent, is open Wed and Sat 2-5pm, April-October.

Water Tower
East Grinstead

Dripping with potential

One might imagine that this tower was on the Welsh borders defending a hill-top castle, or was a folly in the Capability Brown-designed grounds of a stately home. In fact, it is a former water tower in the centre of East Grinstead, West Sussex.

On two sides of the Sackville Water Tower are private gardens. The other two adjoin a car-park, although it is separated by the 13ft-wide strip perimeter of land surrounding the tower. Such municipal proximity, plus the effort needed to convert the tower into a house, might dissuade potential buyers.

The existing structure is simply itself: there is an open-tread cast-iron staircase leading round the walls up to a 30,000-gallon water tank, which is now empty. However, while the prospect of conversion may seem daunting, the Landmark Trust has recently converted a number of towers for holiday lets, which have proved very popular, chiefly because of their spectacular views.

The tower was last used about 15 years ago and is now for sale through Savills' Sevenoaks office, by tender in sealed envelopes before



Tall storeys: the water tower

noon next Wednesday. A Savills' spokesman says: "It's impossible to put a price on it, but we are not expecting an awful lot of money — certainly less than £100,000."

A buyer would have to negotiate planning permission with Mid-Sussex District Council for change of use, but Richard Page of Savills, which is handling the sale, says the council is enthusiastic about issuing consent. "This is a listed Grade II building in a conservation area, and the council is keen that its future should be ensured. We have been told that a planning application would be favourably considered."

Any conversion would have to be in sympathy with the stone exterior of the building, which must remain largely unaltered, although it may be possible to put in extra windows in addition to the ones which already light the stairs. Inside constraints would be minimal. The 80ft tower would allow for probably four floors, each of 2-3sq ft, with the sitting room best suited to the top floor to take advantage of the views across the town to the Downs.

The battlemented roof terrace needs little alteration and is unencumbered with the telecommunications aerials which mar so many water towers, but the tower would need electricity and gas. The only amenity in place, unsurprisingly, is the water mains itself, which once fed the water tank.

RACHEL KELLY

● Savills 0732 455551

Real world disappears in a sea of champagne

This newly built detached villa (pictured right) for sale at £318,000, including agency fees, is on a hillside with beautiful views over Pevero Bay, five minutes from the yacht harbour of Porto Cervo, in the caviare and champagne leisure colony of Sardinia's Costa Smeralda.

The Villa Corvi is rustic in style, with honey-stone walls beneath misshapen roof tiles, beamed ceilings and old terracotta-tiled floors. It has a lounge and dining-room, with open stone fireplaces, a designer kitchen, three bedrooms with en suite bathrooms, and a large basement with access to the quarter-acre garden that would easily convert to a self-contained apartment and a car-parking space. A swimming-pool is shared with the neighbours.

The Costa Smeralda story began 29 years ago when the Aga Khan was persuaded by some friends in the banking world to invest £25,000 in 7,400 acres of rugged



Buyer's Italy
SARDINIA

coastline sprinkled with silver sand oases in Sardinia's unspoiled north. Now, £500 million later, it is a glittering dream world of lovely beaches, fabulous yachts, staggeringly expensive hotels, high prices and no sense of reality.

Centred on the yacht harbour of Porto Cervo, where you could run into the King of Spain window shopping, it is an "antiqued" development. All the buildings are rustic in style, with not a new brick in sight to betray their youth.



High life: this three-bedroom detached villa costs £318,000

There has been no concrete explosion on the coastline; only a fraction of Costa Smeralda's coves will ever be developed. No seaside building can exceed two storeys and there will never be crowds. Most of this select area belongs to the Consorzio Costa Smeralda, which began as a property-owning

group of six friends headed by the Aga Khan. There are now 3,000 members (new property owners automatically become members of the consortium) owning 33 miles of coastline, with 25 miles of roads, mains water and electricity. It even has its own police force.

All new building is strictly con-

trolled by the consortium, which demands high architectural standards. None can take place within 200 yards of the beach, so villas built before this rule was made change hands for fortunes.

The cheapest seaside house in the Costa Smeralda will cost at least £700,000, and £2 million-plus villas are not uncommon. This sort of money buys you luxury verging on opulence, in the form of a magnificent Renaissance-style property, with five bedrooms, staff quarters and an acre of manicured lawns that sweep down to the sea.

There are a few less expensive properties. One-bedroom balconied flats around Porto Cervo start at £90,000; semi-detached three-bedroom villas with sea views cost from £195,000.

The development of Casa del Golf, on the slopes of the Pevero golf course, with views, includes small apartments at £113,000, with two and three-bedroom units costing from £204,000.

Prices drop steeply away from the coast. A few miles inland there are some beautiful Sardinian farmhouses ripe for renovation, with exposed chestnut beams, antique fireplaces and old bread ovens. With enough land to build a swimming-pool and graze a few sheep, these cost from £50,000.

The holiday season is short in the Costa Smeralda — from June until late September — and jet-setters owning homes there take off for warmer climes during the winter.

The property laws of mainland Italy apply. The buyer pays a tax of around 4 per cent on newly built homes. Resales are taxed at 10 per cent. Notarial fees are about 2 per cent of the purchase price.

CHERYL TAYLOR

● Further details: Agenzia Immobiliare Porto Cervo, Via C. B. 07020 Porto Cervo, Sardinia. The UK agent to contact is Italia '92, Kingston House, 7 London Road, Old Stratford, Buckinghamshire (0908 567707).

Heap of the week: Lawton Hall, Cheshire

The agony of neglected heritage

LAWTON Hall in Cheshire is an agonising sight. What purpose is there in Britain's battery of preservation and planning laws if a house like this can go to ruin? The new national heritage minister and the entire House of Commons environment committee should be based here to inspect it.

Every pane of glass is broken — not thuggish vandalism but a decade of children throwing pebbles — and every one of the once elegant sashes has rotted away.

Yet Lawton is a fine and imposing red-brick house in a beautiful country setting, two miles from the National Trust's Little Moreton Hall, a few miles from Crewe and its fast train service to London, and within easy commuting distance of Stoke-on-Trent.

The entrance front looks out over banks of rhododendrons. All around are fine mature park trees. From the garden front you walk down to discover a large and

beautiful lake, encircled by yet more rhododendrons.

True, the approach is hardly inspiring, not past the Georgian church but through a large garage yard filled with buses and battered wrecks under repair.

Peter de Figureido in his book on Cheshire houses decided Lawton was built for Robert Lawton, who held the estate from 1736 to 1770, and that the wings were added for his grandson Charles in the 1830s. In the grounds he noted an 1853 memorial with a poem by Charles's wife, Marianna, commemorating a bullfinch that sang "God Save The Queen" when bidden to do so.

Until about ten years ago Lawton was leased as a boys' school, but the house was suffering from lack of maintenance and very soon after it was vacated water began to cascade through the roof, devastating the interior.

Conleiton district council, advised by the county council, has

drawn up schedules of repairs with a view to serving a repairs notice. But tragically this has not yet been issued. "The deterioration over the past five years has been horrific," a council officer says.

Lawton is one of the few heaps appearing in this column that, at least until recently, belonged to descendants of its builders.

About two years ago the house was offered for sale by the agents Louis Taylor, of Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent (0782 260222). Michael Beardmore, one of the directors, said it was sold about 12 months ago to a "mysterious Mr Lawrence" from the Isle of Man, on a 150-year lease, on the condition that the house was renovated within two years. No premium was paid but a rising rent was to be charged throughout the period of the lease.

"I could have sold the house time and again had the Lawton family been willing to release the freehold," Mr Beardmore says.

The Lawtons now live in Kent.

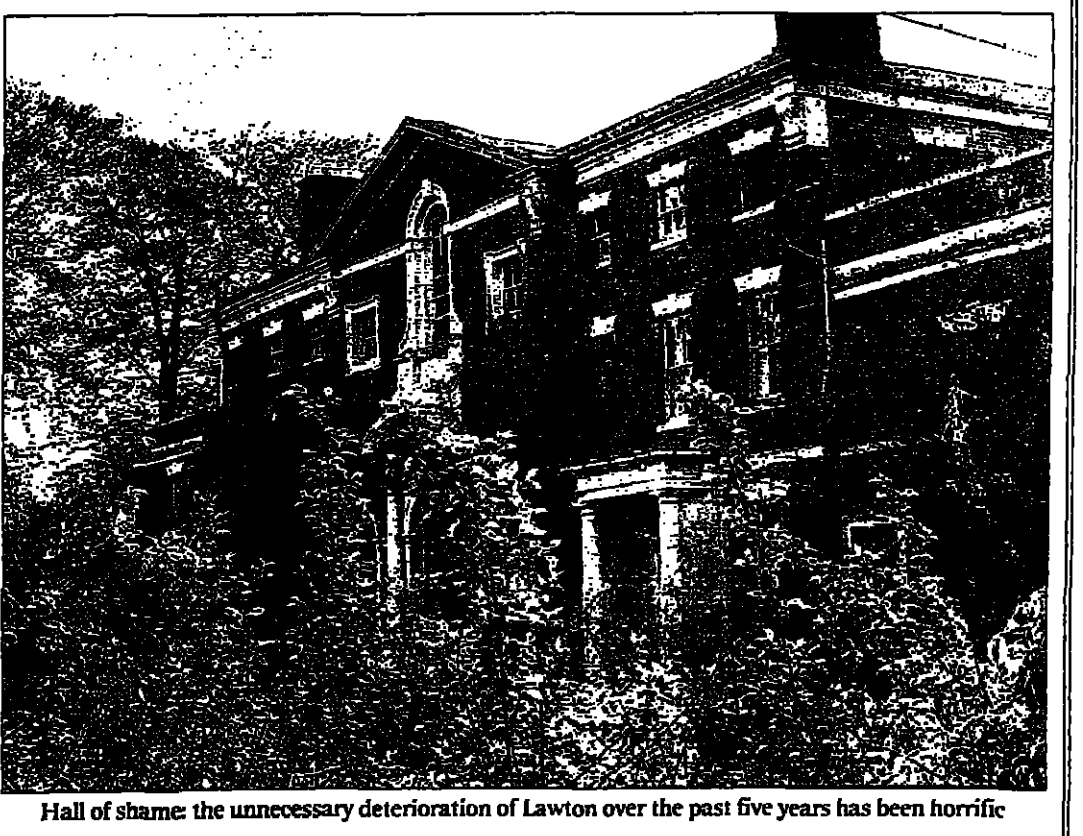
No repairs have yet been carried out and Conleiton council says it has had no approaches, discussions or planning applications during the past 12 months.

The council refrained from serving a repairs notice about 18 months ago because of the possibility of the sale. In the present, highly unsatisfactory circumstances, a repairs notice should be served forthwith on the freeholder, who has ultimate responsibility for the property. In view of the importance of the house, the repairs notice should be served by the heritage minister himself.

Planning permission has been given for use as a hotel and the council would consider offices or residential use. Any application to build in the grounds would be resisted, as this is green belt.

MARCUS BINNEY

● Further details from Conleiton district council (0270 763231).



Hall of shame: the unnecessary deterioration of Lawton over the past five years has been horrific

Francesca Greenoak explores an amazing rock garden that defies the salt-laden Atlantic winds



Painstaking panorama: Jean Hill's rocky, windswept, terraced garden near Fowey is a labour of love, for which ladders are often needed when planting and pruning

The rock garden I like best is on a rocky Cornish headland, where the river Fowey meets the sea. The owners, Jean and John Hill, moved to their home, Headland, in 1974, when the garden was dilapidated. They have since extended it, quarrying paths and terraces on many levels, even planting and pruning while perched on ladders.

There are tiny lawns, and hedges on the windward side to protect the plants from gales and sea spray. Growing from cracks and niches, along with native sea campion, thrift and scurvy grass, are argaves, creeping rosemary, prostrate juniper and bright Spanish broom, spiky phormiums and cordylines, scented cistus and olerias, rock plants such as sempervivums, sedums, lampranthus and the pretty daisy-like erigerons.

Headland seems to offer everything: exotic semi-tropical plants such as palms and dragon trees (dracaenas) occupy sheltered gardens, while on a lower level, above a cove, there is a vegetable garden.

But Headland is not a rock garden as most people understand

the term. Paradoxically, the fashion for artificial rock gardens and grottoes, so powerful around the start of the century, was strongest in areas devoid of natural rock. They were used for displaying alpine

plants which were being brought to Britain for the first time, and as garden structures with a beauty in their own right. Rock garden landscapers such as James Pulham took great care to import or imitate

the right kind of rock and to re-erect it naturally, taking account of the geological strata.

The rock garden at the Chelsea Physic Garden, dating from 1772 and one of the first in Britain, is a

listed monument but, while acknowledging historical value and craftsmanship, I cannot like it, nor any other of the artificial rocks and grottoes. The finest gardens to my mind fit harmoniously within a wider landscape. Rock gardens, however well crafted, always seem to me out of place and proportion.

It was a considerable problem, therefore, to find that my young son, who developed horticultural tastes early on, was becoming more drawn to alpine plants and rock gardens. He loves the minuteness and perfection of form of rock plants. Grudgingly, I gave him an old sink and access to my bin of flint gravel. He has made, I admit, a creditable garden of saxifrages and sempervivums, including some of the small cobwebbed ones.

Most of the plants were from friends: a silvery-leaved heiracium, some tiny erodiums. He saved for a brilliant blue-green tuft of Festuca glauca, which dominates one corner. I softened to the extent of buying him a saxifrage.

● Headland, 3 Battery Lane, Polruan, Fowey, Cornwall. Open June-Sept, Thurs, 2-5pm. £1, child 50p.

Floral cliff-hanger

BEST BUYS

PETER Beales's *Roses* is a book for everyone who loves roses. It is a superbly illustrated directory of roses of every kind, with informed notes and planting ideas (Hardback £17.50, paperback £5.50).

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Alchemist from Beales's *Roses*

WEEKEND TIPS

- Use a trimmer or shears to keep lawns neatly edged.
- Take cuttings from non-flowering shoots of pinks.
- Dig in green manures before they set seed, chopping hard with a sharp spade.
- Keep the vegetable beds (particularly onions) well weeded.
- Prune away dead wood from plum trees.
- Trim heads of Leyland cypresses, taking care not to cut too deeply beyond the foliage and into the wood.

MY PERFECT WEEKEND

SUE MacGREGOR

BBC Radio 4 Today presenter



Where would you go?

Amalfi, south of Naples.

How would you get there?

I'd fly club class to Naples, hire a car, and if I didn't feel brave enough to drive via the breathtaking and hair-raising coastal route, I'd head over the mountains, which would have the advantage of taking me through the old town of Ravello.

Where would you stay?

In one of the hotels perched on a cliff; perhaps the Hotel Luna Convento, a converted convent, where all the rooms overlook the sea and one takes breakfast in a medieval courtyard. However, I would avoid staying there in August, when a very noisy disco thrums all night.

Who would be your perfect companion?

The six friends who were with me there last year, celebrating my birthday.

What essential piece of clothing would you take?

A straw hat.

Which medicines?

High-factor sun cream.

What would you have to eat?

At night I'd have pasta and grilled fish, preferably alfresco, and for lunch, home-made bruschetta, an open sandwich consisting of bread, tomatoes, basil and olive oil. The local tomatoes taste second to none.

What would you have to drink?

A bottle or two of cold Ravello white wine.

What would you take to read?

The latest Kingsley Amis novel, *The Russian Girl*, or if I were feeling solemn, *Christ Stopped at Eboli*, by Carlo Levi.

What music would you listen to?

A concert under the stars in the unbelievable gardens of the Palazzo Ruffolo in Ravello, where Wagner found inspiration for *Parsifal*. The gardens are suspended somewhere between the sky and the sea on a natural shelf, and you look down over vineyards and lemon groves to the sparkling sea below. The concert starts late and everyone is very noisy all the way through, but that's part of the fun.

What would you watch on television?

Nothing, but I might not be able to resist the BBC World Service news on my portable radio.

Would you play any sport?

I'd swim, and even snorkel, and I might try water-skiing.

What luxury would you take?

A large Givenchy III spray.

What piece of art would you like to look at?

The mosaic of Jonah and the four-legged whale in Ravello cathedral. A medieval artist's idea of what a whale looks like; a bit like a mythological beast. I love it because it's so weird.

Who would be your least welcome guest?

Any member of the mosquito family during a siesta.

What newspapers or journals would you read?

I would try to buy a day-old copy of *The Times*. Only two copies ever reach Amalfi, and you have to stand outside the newsagent, panting in the heat, to get one.

What three things would you leave behind?

My three alarm clocks, all of them set at 5.30am.

To whom would you send a postcard?

My three nieces.

What souvenir would you bring home?

Some cheerful hand-painted ceramics from Vietri, a little village along the coast.

What would you like to find when you got home?

All my window boxes freshly planted. Plus a note reminding me to water them.

Interview by Rosanna Greenstreet

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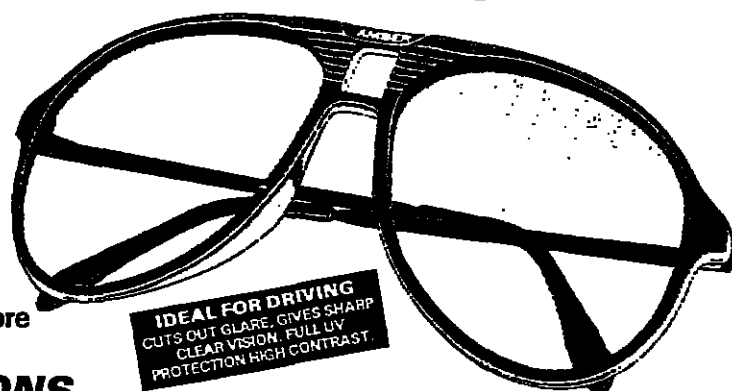
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Catch an old-style floor show

Mosaics and tiles
turn floors into an
art form, says
Nicole Swengley

Original features are the favour of the moment. Fireplaces, cornices, windows and doors which suit the style and age of period properties are being restored or reinspired by an increasing number of home-owners. But what can you do if you move into a home with a mosaic or tiled floor that needs repair? Do you strip it out and start again, or employ someone to spend a considerable amount of time and effort renovating it?

Emma Biggs, of the London company Mosaic Workshop, believes it is worth trying to save original floors. For anyone determined to refurbish an old floor she makes new tiles to fit into original schemes. Replacing individual tiles in the chequerboard hallways of Victorian houses is a frequent request. But Ms Biggs and her partner, Tessa Hunkin, also create unusual new designs using marble, ceramics, or glass mosaics, costing from £200 a square metre.

Alex Zdzankowicz, a designer for Paris Ceramics, agrees: "If you remove an original floor, you're destroying a piece of history. But the fact that a floor is old doesn't mean it should always be kept. Some designs are not as good as others." He endorses Ms Biggs's view that colour-matching tiles or mosaics is extremely difficult unless the original tiles are still manufactured. One solution is to take up the good tiles and make new patterns using complementary tiles as a border. That way, the originals can be retained without allowing the missing tiles to be eyesores.

Decorative border designs measuring 12in x 6in cost about £60 (all prices are plus VAT) from Paris Ceramics, while plain borders cost about £320 a square yard. A front doorstep measuring 3ft x 8in costs about £80 in plain, hand-cut stone mosaics, or about £275 for a decorative design. An additional cost of about £100 is charged for fitting.

Today's mosaics are too often a copy of Roman or Byzantine patterns, according to the French designer Pierre Mesguich, of the Paris-based workshop Mosaik. M Mesguich's mosaics, which are made of glass tiles, Venetian smalti



All fired up: an exhibition of Pierre Mesguich's mosaics is now on at Joseph, in Fulham Road. Soon he will open a gallery in Paris

(glass tesserae), glazed stones and gold leaf, are as likely to have been inspired by 1970s psychedelic light shows, Japanese gardens, African fabrics or the monasteries on Greek islands as by any historical influence.

A small exhibition of M Mesguich's mosaic panels, screens and tables is on display until July 12 at Joseph, 77 Fulham Road, London SW3, as a preview to the September opening of his Mosaik Gallery at 46 rue de l'Université, Paris. Here he will discuss flooring commissions and sell materials for DIY mosaics and ready-made panels. Eventually the gallery will sell hand-painted plates to match his mosaic table-tops and towels to co-ordinate with bathroom friezes.

Prices depend on the techniques and time involved in production. A

simple floor design may cost from £50 a square metre, while a complicated pattern involving intricate gold leafing may cost £500 a square metre. Mosaic-top tables cost £350 to £650.

Anyone considering a specially designed conservatory floor might contact Elaine Goodwin, whose book *Decorative Mosaics* (Charles Letts, £9.95) offers plenty of unusual ideas for anyone intrepid enough to try the medium themselves. Ms Goodwin makes Roman-style flooring with a central design acting as a focal point or abstract designs with marble chippings providing decorative detail between quarry tiles. Prices start from £100 a square foot.

"Mosaics have a timeless quality," she says. "People are fascinated by them because they are so tactile. They can be very classical or quite

exotic. They are historic but also look good in today's interiors."

An alternative for conservatory flooring are Victorian-style encaustic tiles, which are tough and have dirt-dispelling patterns and colours. The term "encaustic" refers to the way the tiles are embossed, inlaid with another clay then fired to provide a hard-wearing and decorative surface.

The Life Enhancing Tile Company makes patterned encaustic tiles from £11 each. Those made by Fired Earth cost from £34 (including VAT) a square yard and are available in six styles, each in six colours, allowing Victorian designs to be recreated.

Victorian geometric floor tiles, using traditional clays and colour stains, are made by Original Style. These can be bought individually to

recreate classic Victorian patterns by choosing from 14 shapes, each available in eight colours. Tiles cost from 70p for a red 6in square to £1.50 for a blue octagon. A patterned floor costs between £35 and £100 a square metre.

Elaine Goodwin Mosaics, 4 Devonshire Place, Exeter EX4 6JA (0392 70943); Fired Earth, Middle Aston, Oxon OX5 3PX (0869 40724); The Life Enhancing Tile Company, Unit 4a, Alliance House, 14-28 St Marys Road, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO1 5PE (0705 852709); Mosaic Workshop, 46 Churne Road, London N7 6AT (071-263 2997); Paris Ceramics, 583 King's Road, London SW6 2EH (071-371 7778); Original Style, Falcon Road, Sowerton Industrial Estate, Exeter, Devon EX2 7LF (0392 216923); Pierre Mesguich, workshop, Mosaik, 17 rue Foucault, 92110 Cligny, Paris 01331 47 30 98 10

Silver anniversary of golden talent

The Annabel Jones jewellery company is still shining after 25 creative years

Viscountess Astor has never had a moment's boredom in her life. "Each morning I wake up and have at least two dozen new ideas in mind," she says, by way of explaining her many and diverse business interests. Annabel Astor's daunting creative capacity is responsible for her successful jewellery company Annabel Jones,

which is celebrating its 25th year. As well as designing jewellery, Lady Astor, aged 44, runs a soft furnishings firm from her Oxfordshire home and acts as a consultant for the Bond Street stationery company Smythson. She still manages to accommodate a busy private life with her husband William, Viscount Astor, and five children.



Her style: Annabel Astor

Lady Astor's jewellery business, which bears her maiden name, is based in Knightsbridge, but many of her clients do not visit the shop, preferring to order from the glossy catalogue the company produces annually.

Although she had no formal training in jewellery, Lady Astor is now a respected member of the trade. "I developed an interest in stones when I was 15," she says. "As a schoolgirl I sent off for catalogues and postcards of rocks and gems. I was terrible at school and left with few academic qualifications. I worked as a receptionist for three days, resigned and decided to try and set up my own shop."

There was a lack of well-designed jewellery in the late 1960s, most of it was chunky and ugly or very traditional. My shop started by selling other people's designs, but a year later I began designing."

The company's designs generally have a smooth and sensual feel. Engagement rings have stones set in almost flush settings instead of the traditional clutch of high-set diamonds. Heart shapes feature throughout the collection.

As part of the 25th anniversary celebrations, Lady Astor is collating

a list of the 25 essential pieces of jewellery, including for example a fine gold neck chain, plain gold Russian ring and earrings. For an autumn show in the basement of the shop she is also creating a collection of 25 one-off pieces, including a headpiece which incorporates other pieces of jewellery such as earrings and bracelets.

Many of Annabel Jones's customers are women who have bought her jewellery before. More than 24,000 Annabel Jones glossy catalogues are sent out every year, many to America where customers are happy to fax through an order for thousands of pounds' worth of jewellery they have only seen in a picture.

"One man rang and ordered an £8,000 necklace and paid for it, but said he wouldn't collect it for a year, as it was for his wife on their next wedding anniversary," she says. Over 25 years the shop has built up a family following. Girls who bought jewellery for themselves in the early days have gone on to add engagement rings, wedding and eternity rings and then charming presents. Children of the early Annabel Jones customers also shop there, buying gifts such as the silver collar says (£39) and small round silver pill boxes (£26), which can be engraved.

"My own favourite jewellery is a set of ladybirds, a diamond-covered fly with movable wings and a set of large, encrusted 'bumble bees,'" Lady Astor says. "The ladybirds often mass on my shoulder. People used to give me strange looks when they saw a swarm of insects on my dress, but those who know me know it's just my way. I think jewellery should be fun and that people should be more adventurous in the way they wear it."

VINNY LEE

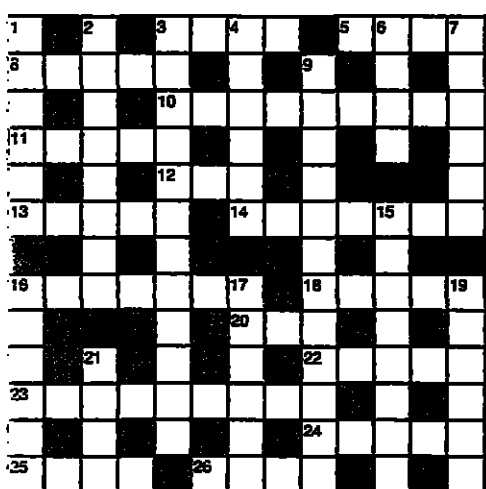
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Telefax 071 782 7827

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2826



ACROSS
3 Additional (4)
5 Stain (4)
8 Nikki -, racing driver (5)
10 Rearrangement (9)
11 Spoken (5)
12 Bull fight shout (3)
13 Continue uninterrupted (5)
14 Percussionist (7)
16 Went to bed (7)
18 E Panama Canal port (5)
19 Gilbert and Sullivan prince (5)
23 Dine at home (3,2)
25 Silent (9)
24 Main arterial vessel (5)

DOWN
1 Mentally alert (6)
2 Concise (8)
3 Godfather film star (6,6)
4 Took a chance (6)
6 Elevator (4)
7 Minor earthquake (6)
8 Cautious conqueror (6,6)
15 Armed services (6)
16 Kidnap price (6)
17 Give commands (6)
19 Lean meat (3,3)
21 Swear (4)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 2825

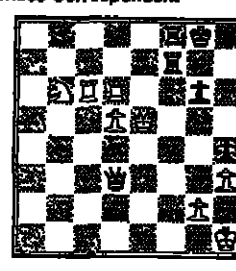
ACROSS: 1 Impede 5 End on 8 Lax 9 Temple 10 Abduct 11 Moss 12 Astonish 14 Senate 15 Necar 16 Emitting 18 Maya 19 Snail 21 Twelve 22 Hue 23 Hanky 24 Sente

DOWN: 1 Meet one's match 3 En passant 4 Elevate 5 Exalt 6 Dad 7 Necessary evil 13 No comment 15 Legends 17 Icky 20 Tin

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Triandafylidis - Vlahos, Greece 1980. Black has sacrificed a piece for this position. What did he have in mind?



Send your answer on a postcard with your name and address to: The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday next week will win a Satsford chess book. The answer and the winners will be printed in The Times on the following Saturday.

Solution to last Saturday's competition: 1... NB4+. The winners are: D. Bates, Chipping Norton; A. Palin, Liverpool; H.O. Dovey, Thetford.

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
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IN THE MATTER OF THE
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AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE
COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the
Order of the High Court of Justice
(Chancery Division) dated 10th June
1992 confirming the reduction of
the Share Premium Account of the
above-named Company by
£13,000,000 was registered by the
Registrar of Companies on 15th June
1992.

DATED 24th 27th day of June 1992
NORTON ROSE
Kempson House
PO Box 570
Carnarvon Street
London EC4A 3AN
Ref: AFR/63/19/920
Solicitors for the above-named
Company

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
No. 00412 of 1992
IN THE MATTER OF HEPRA PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE
COMPANIES ACT 1985
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ever anniversary
golden talent

BBC1

- 6.45 Open University (77042577) 8.50 Playdays (1) (2225409)
9.10 News and Weather (1249732)
9.15 Telling Tales: Zak and the Shepherd (1) (2534664)
9.30 This is the Day: Graham Young visits the award-winning open-air
Heritage Museum at Beamish in County Durham (44157)
10.00 Sign Extra: Watchdog. The consumer affairs programme looks at
pressure selling of hearing-aids (53480)
10.10 Hindi Urdu Boli Chahi Spoken Hindi and Urdu for beginners (1)
(406951) 10.55 Fast Feasts (1) (9740044)
11.00 How do you Manage? Presented by Carolyn Marshall (4374)
11.30 Country File. John Craven introduces the topics currently
enlivening the hills and dales of Britain (4339409) 11.55 Weather
(5915799)
12.00 The Great Elastic Band. Clapham Common is the venue for a
celebration of the first annual National Music Day, initiated by Mick
Jagger and Tim Renton and featuring Britain's biggest band
(27480)
1.00 News (62572374) 1.05 On the Record. The guest is the foreign
secretary Douglas Hurd (5635157)
2.00 Eastenders. Omnibus edition (1) (CeeFax) (5) (61409)
3.00 Film: Kim (1950) starring Dean Stockwell and Errol Flynn. Lively and
handsomely-mounted version of Rudyard Kipling's classic adventure
tale. Directed by Victor Saville (12011596) 4.50 Cartoon (2148765)
4.55 Steven Spielberg's Amazing Stories: The Remote Control
Man. When mid-mannered Walter's beloved television set is sold
by his cruel family, he buys a bargain from a strange store. (CeeFax)
(5) (4082866)
5.20 Survivors — A New View of Us. Brian Gear narrates the story of
the millions of red salmon who begin their life in the Adams river in
Canada, then head for the Pacific Ocean, only to run the gauntlet of
killer whales, seals and fishing boats (1). (CeeFax) (9026886)
5.50 Masterchef 1992. Leslie Thomas and David Wilson join Loyd
Grossman in his quest to find Britain's top amateur chef. (CeeFax)
(975886)
6.25 News with Moira Stuart. Weather (122770)
6.40 Titchmarsh on Song. Alan Titchmarsh continues his nationwide
musical pilgrimage and talks to Aled Jones and Willard White.
(CeeFax) (5) (617770)
7.15 Strathblair. Likeable Scottish drama series set in the 1950s.
(CeeFax) (5) (617770)
8.00 Whicker's World: A Taste of Spain. The laid-back globe-trotter
travels to Andalusia to witness the Rocio, a timeless ritual to
celebrate spring. (CeeFax) (5) (5409)



Playing the double spy game: Michael Maloney (8.30pm)

- 8.30 Snow
CHOICE: Gareth Rowlands's carefully crafted drama is based on
the true story of Arthur Owens (Michael Maloney), the first
controlled double agent in the history of British espionage. Owens
was a humble Welsh battery salesman with an intense dislike of the
English. He started working for British intelligence in 1937, only to
resign and throw in his lot with the German secret service. During
the second world war he was re-recruited by MI5, given the
code-name Snow and spied for both sides. The film is good on
Owens's background and has a strong period feel, while Maloney
(in the regulation spy wear of raincoat and trilby) admirably
suggests the little man caught up in events beyond his control. But
like many double agent stories, it becomes too complicated for its
own good and the tension begins to evaporate. (CeeFax) (5) (91596)
9.00 News with Michael Buerk. (CeeFax) Weather (586515)
9.15 Heart of the Matter. Joan Bakewell returns with a new series
examining contemporary moral and religious debates. Tonight she
looks at the techniques of the "gay" movement. (CeeFax) (5) (91596)
10.00 Knight and Day. American comedy series about two feuding
radio hosts. Starring Jack Warden and Mason Adams (178461)
11.50 The Human Element: A Scattering of Ashes. The last of the
series presents an intimate portrait of the American scientist and
"father of the pill" Carl Djerassi (1) (5) (305799)
45 The Sky at Night with Patrick Moore (5) (353044) 12.05am
Weather (5605287)

BBC2

- 6.35 Open University: Maths Models and Methods 7.00 Klee and the
Munich Revolution 7.25 A Case of Flu 7.50 8.15 Exams: a
Curious Kind of Ritual 8.40 Living with Technology 9.05 The
Mammalian Kidney 9.30 Religion and Society in Victorian Bristol
9.55 A School of Genes 10.20 Questions of National Identity 11.10
Just an Illness (4487067)
12.00 Regional Westminster Programmes (94664)
12.30 Film: Man of the Moment (1955, b/w). Standard slapstick comedy
starring Norman Wisdom as a foreign office field clerk who
becomes part of a diplomatic mission to Geneva. Directed by John
Paddy Carstairs (1085954)
1.55 Sunday Grandstand introduced by Bob Wilson. The line-up is
(subject to alteration): 2.00, 3.35, 5.00 and 6.00 Motorcycling:
round two of the MxN Supercup from Mallory Park, 2.25 and 5.25
Motor racing: round six of the Esso British touring car
championship from Donington Park, plus round nine of the British
Formula 3 Championship, 3.05 Olympic Reflections, 3.10
Rowing: Olympic preview, 3.25 Horse Racing: the Irish Derby from
the Curragh, 4.00 Tennis: the pick of the action from Wimbledon,
5.45 Paralympic Hockey: Olympic preview (27668374)
6.30 Counterpoint
CHOICE: A documentary for National Music Day celebrates the
achievements of British music education and voices anxieties that its
quality may be undermined by the new national curriculum. Leading
the protests, as he has done in the past, is the conductor Simon
Rattle. According to Rattle and his supporters the glory of teaching
in the past 30 years has been its emphasis on getting children not
just to learn about music but to make it. They claim that under the
new curriculum composing and performing will lose out to a more
academic approach. Rattle says it is an ideological dispute, with
active learning being regarded as unacceptably left-wing. His
supporters feel that the new curriculum will leave our orchestras
short of instrumentalists (959595)
7.15 Life on Earth: Lords of the Air. David Attenborough examines the
bird's unique possession, its feathers, which provide the surface of
the most perfect aerodynamic known — birds' wings (1) (529041)
8.10 Artists' Journeys: Tony Cragg on Constantin Brancusi. Sculptor
Tony Cragg travels to Romania in search of a pioneer of modern
sculpture (159461)
8.50 Alan Bennett: The Season. The writer introduces the retrospective
of his work which will be shown over the next eight weeks (777119)
9.00-12.30 Black and White in Colour: Color Adjustment. This
American documentary traces how 40 years of racial differences
have been reflected in American television. Clips from popular
shows such as Amos 'n' Andy, 15pm and Roots are interspersed with
news footage (3409)



Pizza men: Spike Lee (left) and Danny Aiello (10.30pm)

- 10.30 Film: Do the Right Thing (1989)
CHOICE: Spike Lee's exuberant and uncompromising account of
racial tensions in Brooklyn makes a strong entry for 88th Oscar
and White in Colour season. Do the Right Thing is an instant
must-see film by one of Hollywood's few black directors,
who is also writer, co-producer and star. Lee's Oscar-nominated
picture centres on the Italian-American owner of a pizza parlour
(Danny Aiello) who feels threatened in a mainly black area and
unwittingly helps to spark a race riot. Lee the actor has a plum role
as Aiello's workaholic delivery man. It is a film that divides opinion.
Supporters praise its intelligence and style and accept the rawness
of the language. Critics have described it as an indictment to
violence. Lee tries to stand aloof, quoting Malcolm X in favour of
violent action and Martin Luther King against. (CeeFax) (5) (32770)
12.30am Moviecentre: Les Diaboliques (1954, b/w). Simone Signoret
stars in the classic suspense thriller in which the wife and mistress of
a sadistic headmaster plot to murder him. Directed by Henri-
Georges Clouzot. In French with English subtitles (56271). Ends at
2.30

ITV

- 6.00 TV-am: A View of Britain 6.30 Michaela 7.00 Dapple-down Farm
7.30 Widgey 7.55 Thought for Sunday 8.00 Frost on Sunday. In
the last of the series, David Frost talks to Margaret Thatcher and Neil
Kinnock. Includes at 8.00 and 9.00 News and weather (1377515)
9.25 This is your Life. Donald Duck. Friends and relatives pay tribute to
the grumpy bird (2077664)
10.15 The Littlest Hobo. Canine adventure series (846461)
10.45 Link. Frankie Armstrong has a large following on the alternative
folk-music scene. She talks about how she has combined her
singing with a career in social work, and discusses her sporadic sight
impairment. (Oracle) (7118667)
11.00 Morning Worship from the Methodist conference in Newcastle
upon Tyne (751590)
12.00 The Curate's Egg. Gregory Webb, the new deacon at St George's,
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, gave up his law practice when he was 24
to train for the Anglican ministry (811901)
12.30 LWT News Weekend with Anna Maria Ashe and Ed Boyle
(3543916) 12.55 LWT Weather (6058480)
1.00 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather (2638355)
1.15 Highway to Heaven. Michael Landon stars as the earthbound
angel in this American drama series (5625407)
2.10 Michael Landon: Memories with Laughter and Love. A tribute
to the American actor, who died last year. His story is told by
colleagues and members of his family (704461)
3.50 Athletics and International Rugby. Jim Roddell presents action
from day two of the Panasonic Olympic Trials from Birmingham's
Alexander Stadium. Plus rugby, a New Zealand XV v England B in
Hamilton. Commentary by Alastair Hignell (83614935)
6.30 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather (446157) 6.35 LWT News and
weather (445428)
6.40 People Get Ready. Juliet Coley presents the gospel music series.
This week's guests are former Motown star Vernice
Mitchell and London's Miracle Concert Choir. (Oracle) (5) (267664)



Is she running out of friends? Angela Lansbury (7.15pm)

- 7.15 Murder, She Wrote: Family Doctor. One wonders if Jessica
Fletcher (Angela Lansbury) can have any acquaintances left, so
many having been murdered in previous episodes. This week Jessica
and Dr Haditt are kidnapped. (Oracle) (523667)
8.10 Watchdog. Emma Wray and Paul Brown star in Jim Hinchmough's
curiously addictive comedy about a mismatched couple (1) (Oracle)
(1) (643428)
8.40 Film: Things That Go Bump in the Night (1990) starring Jaclyn
Smith as a partner in a management firm who reluctantly returns to
the courtroom to defend an old classmate accused of murdering her
husband. Directed by E. W. Swackhamer. (Oracle) (1767295)
10.25 Frankle. On... Frankie Howard does his stand-up routine for the
miners of Colwyn Colliery in Nottinghamshire. (Oracle) (319770)
10.55 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather (305652) 11.10 LWT Weather
(820401)
11.15 Cue the Music. Lloyd Cole and the Commotions in concert
(174041)
12.15am The ITV Chart Show (5) (625962)
1.15 Film: The Birds (1963) starring Tippi Hedren and Rod Taylor.
Disturbing thriller, based on the story by Daphne du Maurier, in
which a peaceful Californian community is suddenly terrorised by
thousands of killer birds. Directed with his relish for the macabre by
Alfred Hitchcock (15273417)
3.25 Night Heat. A top jockey and trainer are murdered (6230726)
4.35 Pick of the Week. Regional highlights (1) (5275542)
5.05 Soap. The usual madness and mayhem with the Tates and the
Campbells (1) (5640097)
5.30 ITN Morning News (67417). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 Trans World Sport (116032) 7.00 The Clinkers (555157) 7.10
The Wombles (1) (3201428) 7.15 Ovide (253664) 7.30 The
Bluffers (1) (1589138) 7.55 Chicken Minute (1) (2977225) 8.30
Pugwall (555157) 9.00 Little Shop (6931577)
9.25 The Sword of Tipu Sultan. Epic Indian drama (8741954)
10.00 Talking Liberties. Jacques Derrida talks to Jonathan Ree (1)
(302732) 10.45 Dennis. Animation (1) (1716409)
11.00 Beat That with M. Scarle. Last in the series (1) (2652)
11.30 Phipper. Classic adventures of a friendly dolphin (1041)
12.00 Little House on the Prairie. The trials and tribulations of a close-
knit Kansas plains family (10190) 1.00 Voyage to the Bottom of
the Sea. Classic underwater adventures (36138)
2.00 Four-mations UK: A is for Autism (1) (5088549) 2.10 Papageno
(5388698) 2.15 Alice in Wonderland (41433634)
2.30 American Chronicles. Richard Dreyfuss narrates a more offbeat
documentaries from David Frost. The first film
explores the American fashion industry and the second looks at
lifestyles in Beverly Hills (5) (732)
3.00 Film: Deep in My Heart (1954). Conventional Hollywood biopic of
the composer Signum Rosenberg, played by Jose Ferrer. With Merle
Oberon. Directed by Stanley Donen (3697002)
5.25 News and weather (1215935)
5.30 Kabaddi. Punjab v Delhi: the men's final (5) (848)
6.00 Bush Tucker Man. Les Hinders returns to the Kimberley region of
northern Australia (461)
6.30 The Cosby Show. Popular American comedy series. (Teletext) (111)
7.00 Watching the Detectives. Continuing the series which looks at
the lives of private detectives and how they measure up to their
fictional counterparts (1). (Teletext) (3515)
8.00 Hard News. As the 18-month trial period of newspaper self-
regulation comes to an end, David Jessel asks how effective the
Press Complaints Commission has been (8119)



Words, music and machines: Pip Greasley's opera (8.30pm)

- 8.30 The 5th Wave Opera
CHOICE: Depending on how you see it, this is an opera about
cycling or a documentary about cycling set to music and voices. It is
probably a bit of both, definitely unconventional and a novel way of
marking National Music Day. The work of a contemporary
composer Pip Greasley, The 5th Wave Opera features competition
footage shot at an indoor cycling track near Southampton, a mezzo
soprano and a tenor and music, provided by keyboard, percussion
and wind. This is a mood piece rather than opera in the accepted
sense, despite an alleged plot about the clash between the muscle
power of one team and the technology of the other. The images are
often striking, many of them delivered in a silvery blue, and make a
close fit with the music. The libretto could do with sub-titling (5)
(50461)
9.30 Four-mations UK: The Stain (82119)
10.00 Film: Conquest of the South Pole (1984). Offbeat fantasy drama
about five young unemployed men who decide to recreate Roald
Amundsen's heroic polar expedition in their hometown of Leth
Directed by Gillies MacKinnon. (Teletext) (158225)
11.45 Four-mations UK: Nuclear Family by Kayla Parker (219954)
11.50 In My Mother's Eyes by Sarah Strickland (315577)
12.00 Film: Le Beau Serge (1958, b/w). A theology student (Jean-Claude
Brilly) returns to his native village to recuperate from tuberculosis
and tries to save his childhood hero who is a hopeless drunk. A well-
observed character study which marked the directing debut of
Claude Chabrol (972184). Ends at 1.50am

The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are video
PinCode numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder to
record a programme. VideoPinCode can be used with most video tapes. Tap in
the VideoPinCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details on VideoPin
on 089 12100 (call-charged at 8p per minute plus 3p per 10p or 10p to
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SATELLITE

ONE

- the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
am Hour of Power (4664) 7.00 Fun
in (90474) 11.30 The World Today
(8286) 12.00 Live at Six (95644)
pm Chopper Squad (74312) 2.00 Hart
31 (4751) 3.00 Expert is Enough
31 (4751) 4.00 News (65188) 5.00 All
-man (Voting) (461) 6.00 Growing
(935) 6.30 The Simpsons (7515) 7.00
pilot (65188) 8.00 Sportsday
(461) 9.00 10.00 11.00 Entertainment Tonight
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TWO

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for children without a home, without sight, without hearing,
who are severely handicapped in other ways. The orphanage
can't just give these little ones a home, it also gives them a better
life.

home, an education, and, most importantly, love have saved
nupa from an awful fate. Your help could stop these being taken
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ase help Father Brennan in his fight for these children. Every
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Name _____

Address _____

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SKY SPORTS

- the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.30am Film: The View (40954) 7.00 US
Olympic Championships - The Final (2557)
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BBC1

- 6.35 Open University: Semi-conductors and the Sun 7.00 Introduction to Pure Mathematics (423712)
- 7.25 News and Weather (325673)
- 7.50 Halo Spencer: Fun with puppets (r) (884444) 7.50 Babar: Adventures with the regal elephant (r) (884826) 8.15 The Jetsons: Space-age cartoon (865560) 8.35 Round the Twist: Australian fantasy (r) (343519)
- 9.00 Parallel 9: Roddy McDowall, Helen Atkins, Jenny Bolt, Dominic Monaghan and Kevin Williams are joined by The Farm who perform their latest single "The Rising Sun" (s) (1716446) 10.52 Weather
- 10.55 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam from Wimbledon. The line-up is (subject to alteration): 11.05 Football: a review of the last 16 days in Sweden; 11.35 Rugby League: Highlights of the second Test from Melbourne between Australia and Great Britain; 11.50 and 1.05 Tennis: by the end of today's play at Wimbledon, weather permitting, the last 16 in the men's and women's singles will be known; 1.00 News (6847923)
- 5.10 News and weather (649933)
- 5.20 Regional news (125622)
- 5.25 Jim'll Fix It: Jimmy Savile fixes it for an eight-year-old to frame him, for a lecturer to fix his hand at being a warm-up man for the Wogen audience, and for a primary school teacher to be serenaded by Chris De Burgh. (Ceefax) (s) (4249756)
- 6.00 The Brittas Empire: Chris Barrie stars as the bumbling manager of a council leisure centre in the manic comedy series by Richard Fegen and Andrew Norris. (Ceefax) (r) (176)
- 6.30 That's Showbusiness: Mike Smith is joined by Frank Bruno, Terry Christian, Claire Rayner and Hugh Dennis in the showbusiness quiz. (Ceefax) (s) (756)
- 7.00 Keeping Up Appearances: Patricia Routledge stars as the indomitable snob in Roy Clarke's comedy. Hyacinth's family cause further embarrassment when Daisy and Onslow lose Daddy (r). (Ceefax) (s) (3824)
- 7.30 Growing Pains: Put on a Happy Face. Ray Procks and Sharon Duce star in Steve Wetton's pleasing drama about the trials of fostering. When his mother decides to take a holiday, her teenage son is placed with the Hallingworths. (Ceefax) (s) (525176)
- 8.20 Casualty: The Last Word. A gritty medical drama set in the casualty department of a city hospital. An experienced nurse joins the team tonight but she realises conditions have changed when she has to deal with an HIV-positive patient who is bleeding profusely (r). (Ceefax) (s) (365718)
- 9.10 News with Martin Lewis. (Ceefax) Sport and weather (739008)
- 9.30 That's Showbusiness: Mike Smith is joined by Frank Bruno, Terry Christian, Claire Rayner and Hugh Dennis in the showbusiness quiz. (Ceefax) (s) (756)
- 10.10 Today at Wimbledon: Harry Carpenter introduces highlights of today's play and Helen Rollason rounds up the background stories. (Ceefax) (s) (252027)



Bad boys: Tom Cruise (left) and Emilio Estevez (11.10pm)

- 11.10 Film: The Outsiders (1983) Francis Coppola's stirring drama is set in Oklahoma in 1955 and focuses on gang warfare between rich kids and their deprived counterparts from the other side of town. Starring Tom Cruise, Rob Lowe and Patrick Swayze (664263). Northern Ireland: World Championship Moto Cross 12.05-1.40 Film: Grievous Bodily Harm
- 12.40am Weather (1983312)

BBC2

- 6.40 Open University: A Matter of Geometry 7.05 Maths: Transformations in Action 7.30 The Birth of Calculus 7.55 Work and Society 8.20 Doregal, Economy and Culture 8.45 Statistics: The Normal Distribution 8.10 From the 19th to the 20th Century: 9.35 Elements: Properties and Models 10.00 Artists and Photographers 10.25 Living Choices: Supporting Systems 10.50 Design Suite Dramas 11.15 Drifting Continents 11.40 Learning Space 12.05 Shetland: Watts in the Wind 12.30 Living with Technology 12.55 Seattle: Gateway to the Indies 1.20 A Vulnerable Life 1.45 The Weight of the Evidence 2.10 Environment: No Place to Hide 2.35 Evolution: Sexual Selection (19602)
- 3.00 Wimbledon '92: Desmond Lynam introduces live coverage from the All England Club as the tournament reaches the halfway stage (s) (5210514)
- 8.00 News and Sport with Chris Love: Weather (375398)
- 8.15 Have I Got News For You? Last in the series of the topical quiz show (r) (s) (742822)
- 8.45-11.35 Black and White in Colour: Television, Memory, Race 1936-68
- CHOICE: A season of programmes looking at the portrayal of blacks and Asians on television opens with this documentary from the British Film Institute covering the years 1936 to 1968. Portentously introduced by the sociologist Stuart Hall as an attempt "to rediscover those suppressed and oppressed parts of our cultural heritage", the film turns out to be a conventional assembly of clips and interviews which is stronger on anecdote than analysis. But the anecdotes are often revealing. The actor Cy Grant tells of feeling patronised on tonight and a black actress describes being written out of Emergency Ward 10 after a row about a screen kiss. And a 1955 BBC documentary about the colour bar so angered white workers in Birmingham that they went out on strike. Part two, bringing the story up to date, is on Tuesday. (Ceefax) (905485)
- 9.35 Z Cars: A Place of Safety (b/w). This 1964 episode of the popular police series deals with the degrees of racism among the New Town police (702447)
- 10.25 A Hole in Babylon: Drama based on the events surrounding the 1975 Sotheby's house sale. Was the sale simply a bungled robbery, or a symptom of the frustration and anger felt by young black people in Britain during the 1970s? (9057621)
- 11.35 Teenage Diaries: The Daughter Sent From Hell.
- CHOICE: Jennifer Sebright is a young carer. She is 15, her parents are divorced and she looks after her mother who is seriously ill with multiple sclerosis. In this frank and courageous video diary Jennifer faces the camera and bares her feelings. She is blunt and to the point. She resents her mother's illness and feels guilty for doing so. "It takes everything I have got to stop being angry with her, to stop blaming her for something that is not her fault". Relations are often strained but when mum has to go into hospital, Jennifer is scared that this could be the end and lets the tears show. A lighter subplot involves Jennifer and a potential new boyfriend. But even as she rings him up, the shadow of the disabled mother looms large. "People think I'm horrible," Jennifer says, "but try being me for a day" (862373)
- 12.25am Film: Claymatters (1988) starring Todd Fraser and Nicholas Rempel as California farmhands having to deal with prejudice and homophobia. Directed by A.P. Gonzalez (1337935). Ends at 1.30



Mother on her mind: teenager Jennifer Sebright (11.35pm)

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ITV

- 6.00 TV-am: 1503545.
- 9.25 Gimme 5: The last show in the series (27758379)
- 11.30 Zorro: Swashbuckling adventures of the masked hero fighting crime in Spanish-ruled California (3553)
- 12.00 The ITV Chart Show: Today's Video Vault features Queen performing their 1979 hit "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" (s) (25244)
- 1.00 News with Sue Carpenter: Weather (62530398) 1.05 LWT News (62539569) 1.08 The Day (62539669)
- 1.10 Saint and Greavsie: Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves reflect on the past 16 days in Sweden (4492559)
- 1.50 WCW Worldwide Wrestling: More grunt, grapple and groan from America (2987195)
- 2.45 Athletics: Panasonic Olympic Trials. Jim Rosenthal introduces live coverage from Birmingham's Alexander Stadium where the winner of each event is guaranteed a place in Great Britain's team for the Barcelona Olympics. Steve Overt joins Alan Parry and Peter Matthews in the commentary box (65970176)
- 5.00 News with Sue Carpenter: Weather (1261114) 5.05 LWT News (6427114)
- 5.15 Beverly Hills, 90210: The tribulations of the impossibly spoiled pupils of a Californian high school Stephanie Beacham makes an appearance as Dylan's estranged mother who decides to move back to Los Angeles and live with him. (Oracle) (s) (8551534)
- 6.05 Bob's Your Uncle: Bob Monkhouse invites more newlywed couples to compete for a special wedding gift (s) (285027)
- 6.50 Catchphrase: Roy Walker presents a new series of the visual hi-tech game show. (Oracle) (828502)
- 7.20 Dennis Norden's 21 Years of Laughter: A nostalgic look at ITV comedy over the past two decades (r). (Oracle) (102640)



Plodding detective script: Ivan Kaye as Sam Stern (8.10pm)

- 8.10 Sam Saturday: On the Other Hand
- CHOICE: Television's latest police hero is Sam Stern (Ivan Kaye), a youthful detective inspector, London-based and a Jew. Since the Metropolitan Police has few Jewish officers, this gives the series a novel slant. There are few others. What strikes you about Sam Saturday is how little it has been touched by recent developments in the genre. Shows such as the Bill might never have happened. Although there are hints of drama in Sam's private life, what with a divorce, two young kids and a bossy mum (Doreen Mantle) threatening to move in with him, tonight's main business is a plodding murder investigation straight out of a 1950s B movie with dialogue to match. "In my business I meet a lot of very attractive young women", says one of the suspects, while another exclaims: "I'd love to get the bastard that killed her!" (Oracle) (s) (114911)
- 9.10 World Championship Boxing: Jim Rosenthal presents live coverage of Chris Eubank's defence of his WBO super middleweight title against Ron Essert in Quinto da Lago, Portugal. Reg Gutteridge and Jim Watt provide the commentary (872379)
- 10.10 Tom Jones: The Right Time. The Welsh singer is joined by the Chieftains, Bob Geldof and Lyle Lovett as he continues his exploration of the evolution of pop music (s) (881195)
- 10.40 News with Sue Carpenter: Weather (591398) 10.55 LWT weather (845195)
- 11.00 Wolf: Detective drama series. Tony (Jack Scalia) takes a personal interest in a young girl trying to escape her pornographic past (171008)
- 11.55 Philip Marlowe: Private Eye starring Powers Boothe as the detective, Marlowe is set to attend his best friend's tenth wedding anniversary celebrations but learns that the man has been shot dead (662319)
- 12.55am The Big E: Magazine programme for young Europeans (s) (762151)
- 2.05 Music from the Bridge: Cyndi Lauper in concert (1052596)
- 2.35 The Muppet Movie: The Muppet movie stars the Muppet characters in a musical journey (3480848)
- 3.35 Indy Car Racing 1991: Budweiser G.I. Joe's 200 (8529683)
- 4.35 The Hit Man and Her: Peter Waterman and Michaela Strachan introduce the latest on the club scene (s) (6268138)
- 5.30 ITN Morning News (44393)

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 Heathcliff (r) (8117331) 6.25 Eureka's Castle (r) (7811553) 6.30 Once Upon A Time... Life (r) (885353)
- 7.25 Blood Sweat and Glory
- CHOICE: You will have to be an early riser, or set the video, to catch this history of sport which runs to 14 instalments and claims to be definitive. The project opens unpromisingly with a commentary of crushing banality ("sport allows us to dream, to dream of glory" while quotations from Thomas Hobbes, Ernest Hemingway and André Malraux reinforce the pompous tone. Things get better when the film switches from generalities to specifics and traces the origins of sports involving animals, notably bulls and horses, and men fighting each other, the cue to bring in wrestling and boxing. The historical insights are of interest but the treatment is disappointingly brief and matter-of-fact. Far from being definitive, Blood, Sweat and Glory is a superficial glimpse which leaves the subject more or less where it started (s) (7167263)
- 7.55 Trans World Sport (1289553) 9.00 News Summary (8634688) 9.15 Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line (2358398)
- 10.00 Sign On: At Leisure. Carolyn Edwards takes a look at entertainment for the deaf (76114)
- 10.30 Film: Scrooge (1935, b/w). Creaky version of the Dickens classic starring Seymour Hicks as the miser who is reformed by ghostly visitations. Directed by Henry Edwards (9375756)
- 11.50 Madcap Magoo: Cartoon fun with the myopic Magoo (7364992)
- 12.00 Get Smart: Spy spoof starring Don Adams (87973)
- 12.30 The Beverly Hillsbillies: Vintage comedy (44379)



Won out west in a game of poker: Sophia Loren (1.00pm)

- 1.00 Film: Heller in Pink Tights (1960). Stylish comedy western starring Sophia Loren as a feckless actress with a travelling troupe who is won in a poker game by a gunslinger. With Anthony Quinn and Steve Forrest. Directed by George Cukor (83978805)
- 2.55 Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket and Newcastle. Live coverage of the 3.05, 3.35, 4.05 and 4.35 races from Newmarket and the 3.15, 3.50 (Northumberland Plate), 4.20 and 4.50 races from Newcastle (48593391)
- 5.05 Brookside Omnibus (Teletext) (s) (8031114)
- 5.30 Right to Reply: Viewer Sarah Perman challenges Michael Winner about his controversial series True Crimes. (Teletext) (s) (466)
- 7.00 A Week in Politics. Labour leadership candidate John Smith talks about his plans for the party, and with Britain's presidency of the EC beginning next month Vincent Hanna and Andrew Rawnsley chart the difficulties the government will have to face in the next six months, including opposition from its own back benches (8701)
- 8.00 Kingdom of the Plagues: Koppies Island in a Sea of Grass. Koppies are huge granite islands that jut out of the Serengeti plain in Tanzania. They have evolved into a special habitat for many strange creatures (r). (Teletext) (6379)
- 9.00 G. B. H. The second part of Alan Bleasdale's award-winning drama. The conflict between Michael Murray (Robert Lindsay) and Jim Nelson (Michael Palin) continues and there is a new interest in Murray's life with the entry of the beautiful and mysterious Barbara (Lindsay Duncan). (Teletext) (s) (7332008)
- 10.35 Film: Piromot le Fou (1965) Jean Luc-Godard's ebullient, provocative study of love and war starring Jean-Paul Belmondo as a bored Parisian who leaves his rich wife to go on the run with an old flame (Anna Karina). Directed by Jean-Luc Godard. In French with English subtitles (54397843)
- 12.40am Twilight Zone (b/w) Supernatural drama (6404393) Ends at 1.35

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

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SATellite

- SKY ONE
- Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
- 8.00am Danger Day (88058) 8.30 Elephant Boy (99404) 7.00 Fun Factory (888350) 12.00 Film: Scooby Doo and the Reluctant Werewolf (99440) 2.00pm Big Hawk (93805) 3.00 Monkey (97094) 4.00 Iron Horse (80621) 5.00 WWF Superstars Of Wrestling (1756) 6.00 Crazy Like a Fox (89468) 7.00 T.I. Hooker (9702) 8.00 Unsubbed Mysteries (13447) 9.00 Cops I (98605) 9.30 Cops II (84911) 10.00 All American Wrestling (36359) 11.00 K2 (88831)
- SKY NEWS
- Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
- News on the hour.
- 8.00am News (295334) 9.30 Nightline (25669) 10.30 Talking with David Frost

- (46263) 11.00 Dayline (97911) 11.30 Talking with David Frost (88540) 12.30 Those were the Days (82262) 1.30 Holiday Destinations (8791) 2.30 Fashion TV (95263) 3.30 Talking with David Frost (96353) 4.30 Talking with David Frost (3466) 5.00 Live At Five (5291) 6.00 Newsline Weekend (57422) 7.00 Fashion TV (17039) 8.30 Travel Destinations (76353) 10.30 Talking with David Frost (45559) 11.30 Talking with David Frost (14195) 12.30 Fashion TV (95596) 1.30 Newsline Weekend (10913) 2.30 Travel Destinations (99044) 3.30 Target (15409) 4.30 Those were the Days (3733) 5.30 Target (80119)

- SKY MOVIES+
- Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
- 8.00am Sky Movies Plus Showcase (80114) 8.00 Ch. Heavenly Dog (1980): Chevy Chase in comedy adventure (17485) 10.00 The Death of the Incredible Hulk

SPORTS

- Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
- 6.30am Fishing (49008) 7.00 Torque (85534) 8.00 Preview Drive: Motorcycling (8897) 9.00 The 1991-92 Football League Round-Up (10760) 10.00 Wrestling (70466) 11.00 Dutch Motorcycling Grand Prix (99497) 3.00pm US Olympic Athletics (627114) 4.00pm US Olympic Athletics (627114) 5.00pm US Olympic Athletics (627114) 6.00 Motor World (59817) 7.00 World Sports (2027) 7.30 The Sun Gauntlet (66379) 8.30 Wrestling (89718) 10.00 Greyhound Derby (50752) 11.00 Motor Night (71192) 12.00 Ringside (26664) 2.00 Greyhound Racing (16428)
- EUROSPORT
- Via the Astra satellite.
- 8.00am Motorsport (71331) 9.00 Football European Championships - The Final (35905) 11.00 News (85298) 12.00 Saturday Afternoon (16719) 1.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 2.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 3.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 4.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 5.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 6.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 7.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 8.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 9.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 10.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 11.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 12.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424)

SCREENSPORT

- Via the Astra satellite.
- 7.00am Tennis (8176) 8.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 8.30 Longridge (85466) 9.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 9.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 10.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 10.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 11.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 11.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 12.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 12.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 1.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 1.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 2.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 2.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 3.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 3.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 4.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 4.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 5.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 5.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 6.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 6.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 7.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 7.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 8.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 8.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 9.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 9.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 10.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 10.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 11.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 11.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 12.00 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195) 12.30 NICE Trailblazer (1992) (84195)

LIFESTYLE

- Via the Astra satellite.
- 12.00 Rambo (72501) 12.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 1.00 Rambo (72501) 1.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 2.00 Rambo (72501) 2.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 3.00 Rambo (72501) 3.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 4.00 Rambo (72501) 4.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 5.00 Rambo (72501) 5.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 6.00 Rambo (72501) 6.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 7.00 Rambo (72501) 7.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 8.00 Rambo (72501) 8.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 9.00 Rambo (72501) 9.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 10.00 Rambo (72501) 10.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 11.00 Rambo (72501) 11.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195) 12.00 Rambo (72501) 12.30pm Spiral Zone (1992) (84195)

CNN

- Via the Astra satellite.
- 11.00 News (85298) 12.00 Saturday Afternoon (16719) 1.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 2.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 3.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 4.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 5.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 6.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 7.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 8.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 9.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 10.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 11.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424) 12.00 DTM Grand Prix (99424)

RADIO 1

- Chuckie & Roll: Humour in music from Ian Dury, Madness, 2000 Johnnie Walker 6.00 The Saturday Rock Show 8.30 Loose Talk: with Mark Thomas and Kevin Day 9.00 Andy Kershaw 11.00 John Peel 2.00am Lynn Parsons (FM only)

RADIO 2

- Robinson: 12.00 Muzak 1.00pm Comedy Hour: The All Road Show 1.30 Someone and the Gumbles. The special edition of the comedy show. 2.00 Sunday News 3.30 Steve Race 4.00 The Bands Played On 5.00 Cinema 2.30 Muzak: By Andrew Penn 6.00 John Sachs presents Mary Black in Concert 7.00 Beat the Record 7.30 Curran Up: The BBC Concert Orchestra 40th Anniversary Tour 8.30 Bernie Clifton 9.45 Things Are Swinging 10.30 Radio 2 Arts programme: 12.30am Colin Mee

RADIO 3

- News and Sport on the hour to 2.00pm 6.00am World Service: News hour 6.30am Sunday News 7.00am World Service: News hour 7.30am Sunday News 8.00am World Service: News hour 8.30am Sunday News 9.00am World Service: News hour 9.30am Sunday News 10.00am World Service: News hour 10.30am Sunday News 11.00am World Service: News hour 11.30am Sunday News 12.00am World Service: News hour 12.30am Sunday News 1.00am World Service: News hour 1.30am Sunday News 2.00am World Service: News hour 2.30am Sunday News 3.00am World Service: News hour 3.30am Sunday News 4.00am World Service: News hour 4.30am Sunday News 5.00am World Service: News hour 5.30am Sunday News 6.00am World Service: News hour 6.30am Sunday News 7.00am World Service: News hour 7.30am Sunday News 8.00am World Service: News hour 8.30am Sunday News 9.00am World Service: News hour 9.30am Sunday News 10.00am World Service: News hour 10.30am Sunday News 11.00am World Service: News hour 11.30am Sunday News 12.00am World Service: News hour 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